

Hafa Adai!

Theft charge filed vs ex-NMC official. **PAGE 2**

Kilili wants 'bad actors' blocked from CW program. **PAGE 9**

75¢

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GARAPAN BEAUTIFICATION

The Corporate Social Responsibility team of Imperial Pacific International is seen doing a beautification project that entails painting, water blasting, and cleaning the stretch from the Bank of Guam to the American Memorial Park along Beach Road in Garapan. This two-week project is now on its third day. The team is expected to go to other parts of the island to continue the project.

BEA CABRERA

See story on Page 6

DPL lowers grazing fees

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A change in the regulations of the Department of Public Lands effectively lowered cattle grazing fees.

The new DPL regulation now allows residents to consider raising their own cattle or livestock for personal use at a lower annual fee, depending on how much land is permitted to use.

Prior to June, the annual grazing fee amounted to at least \$1,500, with grazing fees, also called agricultural temporary occupancy agreements, or TOA, costing at least \$1,250 per

See DPL on Page 4

CUC cuts power rates

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A dip in global fuel prices has prompted the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to decrease its power rates starting this month.

Starting June 1, CUC lowered the fuel component of its rate, called the Fuel Adjustment Charge pass-through rate, from \$0.16381 per kilowatt-hour to \$0.15330 per kWh.

That means residential ratepay-

See CUC on Page 4

PSS graduate is Harvard-bound

By **BEA CABRERA**
REPORTER



BEA CABRERA

Robert Jomar Malate poses with his parents Roberto and Maria Teresa Malate at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort last July 7.

It's not as if life was handed to Robert Jomar Malate on a silver platter.

Born a preemie, the colloquial term for premature, Malate's mom had five miscarriages before finally having him, prompting her to call him her "miracle baby."

"I've had five miscarriages before we had him in my mid-40s. When he was growing up, we thought he would have a hard time because he was premature when I gave birth to him. But he proved us wrong. He was a consistent honor student, always making us proud,"

See PSS on Page 4

INSIDE



ASIA

North Korea fires several suspected short-range anti-ship missiles.

PAGE 23



OFF THE WALL

A female peacock ruffles more than just feathers at a liquor store.

PAGE 27



LIFE & STYLE

George Clooney's father looks forward to meeting his new grandchildren.

PAGE 29



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Local

Theft charge filed vs ex-NMC official

The Office of the Attorney General has formally charged the former maintenance manager of the Northern Marianas College who is accused of stealing the school's gasoline supply by using NMC's open fleet card.

The government charged

43-year-old Phillip Aguan Fejeran Jr. on Monday in the Superior Court with one count of theft. He pleaded not guilty. He is represented in the case by assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho set the jury trial for

Oct. 16, 2017. There will be a status conference on Aug. 6, 2017.

It is alleged that on March 7, 2017, March 10, 2017, May 2, 2017, and May 3, 2017, Fejeran stole gasoline belonging to NMC totaling \$183.50. An Office of the Public Auditor's investigation into the alleged theft led to Fejeran's arrest last month.

Police detective Peter Aldan, who is assigned at OPA, stated in his report that on two separate occasions in February 2012, Fejeran instructed a female student to park her car behind the NMC maintenance shop, where he then transferred gasoline from a 5-gallon container into the vehicle.

Aldan said the student, who was then dating Fejeran, confirmed the incident in an interview.

Aldan said a Shell Dandan receipt issued last March 7 showed that 16 gallons of gasoline worth \$63 were purchased by Fejeran using an open container. Later that same day, a Shell Dandan receipt showed that Fejeran bought 15 more gallons of gasoline worth \$59.49 using an open container. Both pur-

See **THEFT** on Page 4

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6 indicted over CW1 scam

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A superseding indictment was filed in federal court, charging the president of a company that owns an auto repair shop and five others for allegedly recruiting alien workers from Bangladesh for \$15,000 to \$20,000 in exchange for promised jobs and “green cards.”

The superseding indictment charged David Trung Quoc Phan, president of United Brothers, which operates TBK Auto Cares in Lower Base; brothers Muksedur Rahman and MD. Rafiqul Islam, Shahinur Akter, Zeaur Rahman Dalu, and Analyn Nunez.

The superseding indictment charged the defendants with 17 counts.

Phan was charged with two counts of mail fraud, five counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting, and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Rahman was charged with four counts of mail fraud, 12 counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting, and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

Islam was charged with three counts of mail fraud, and 10 counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

Akter was charged with two counts of mail fraud and four counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

Dalu was charged with one count of mail fraud and two counts of fraud in foreign labor contracting.

Nunez was charged with one count of mail fraud and one count of fraud and misuse of visas and permits.

The superseding indictment includes a notice of criminal forfeiture.

The original indictment charged only Phan, Rahman, Islam, and Dalu and has six counts of same charges.

Brothers Rahman and Rafiqul, and Dalu allegedly recruited workers from Bangladesh for work in the CNMI.

Rahman was allegedly assisted by unindicted persons in Bangladesh and on Saipan.

Akter, who is the spouse of Rahman, allegedly aided Rahman’s fraudulent scheme by threatening to falsely report that she had been sexually assaulted by workers who complained about not having been provided work, or who asked Rahman to return their money.

Nunez was the alleged document preparer for United Brothers.

According to the superseding indictment, Islam, Dalu, and Rahman and other unindicted persons recruited alien workers from Bangladesh, promising them jobs in the U.S. The workers were recruited for jobs such as painter, restaurant worker, driver, and die-cast maker, for a one-year period.

Rahman, Islam, Dalu, and

other unindicted persons promised the prospective workers income of at least 130,000 Bangladesh takas (\$1,500) per month, and also promised that they would be given lawful permanent residence status in the U.S. (“green cards”).

Rahman, Islam, and Dalu charged each worker between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in exchange for the promised job and visa.

Rahman then made agreements with the president of Curtwill Enterprises in Kolblerville and Phan to submit I-129CW petitions on behalf of each worker, representing that Curtwill and United Brothers would employ those workers.

Phan and Curtwill received compensation from Rahman in exchange for filing the I-129CW petitions.

Phan and Curtwill submitted fraudulent contracts to USCIS with each petition, representing that the two companies had an available position for each worker, but in fact they did not have available jobs for the workers.

Defendants instructed or “coached” the workers to lie to U.S. consular officers during their visa interviews.

Specifically, the defendants told the workers to say they had not paid any fees in exchange for their jobs and they had work experience for the jobs listed in their contracts.

Soon after the workers petitioned by Phan and Nunez arrived in the CNMI and were temporarily given work at TBK Auto Cares.

After several weeks, Phan began to pay them less than the minimum wage and after several weeks, he fired the workers and told them it was

not his responsibility to give them jobs.

Phan told the workers that he only submitted petitions to bring them to the CNMI because Rahman had paid him \$1,500.

When the workers complained to Curtwill and to Rahman, Islam and Dalu about not having work as promised, Curtwill told them they had to find their own jobs.

Rahman, Dalu, and Akter threatened the workers and their families with physical harm and abuse of the legal process, to intimidate and prevent

their cooperation with law enforcers, according to the indictment.

At a hearing last Monday, except for Nunez, all defendants and their counsels appeared before U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Phan, Rahman, Islam, and Dalu pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Manglona set the jury trial for Aug. 1, 2017.

Akter’s arraignment was set for yesterday.

Nunez turned in on Wednesday. Attorney Janet King was appointed as her counsel.

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'New board needs to look at CHC's finances'

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board nominee Leticia Reyes suggests that the first thing they must do, if ever they are confirmed by the Senate, is to look into the hospital's finances.

Reyes, a nurse practitioner, is one of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' nominees to the board, along with Lauri Ogunoro and David Rosario. Torres has

yet to name his board nominees from Tinian and Rota.

The Senate is expected to decide on their confirmation either today or at their next session.

Reyes said that reviewing its finances is needed before the board could make any suggestions to improve services and facilities of the CNMI's lone and public hospital. "We must look into the finances if everything is possible. If we could do it or not."

"I know the hospital can generate revenues. We just need to study how we could do it. We have to organize the system first before we could look into improvements. Once our finances are set, then we should be fine. Everything is possible," she added.

Reyes believes her background as a nurse practitioner is an asset. She was the hospital's former director of nursing and transferred to the CNMI

Public School System to head the nursing assistant program in 2012. She now works at the Saipan Health Clinic.

"I want to also know the problems of the nursing department since it is close to my heart. But before the board could implement something or suggest changes, we have to look at the finances," Reyes said.

"I'm optimistic that the nominees for this board would work together with CHCC

and the hospital's officials to improve service to our people. We just have to know how to deal with the finances and other money matters."

"There's so much we could

do but we don't have any solid facts yet. If ever we're confirmed, the board needs to meet first before we could suggest anything on the improvements."

Ex-USPS officer pleads not guilty to mail theft

A former U.S. Postal Service officer appeared in federal court yesterday and pleaded not guilty to charges that he stole a package from the Chalan Kanoa Post Office last March 6.

Mark Tyquingco appeared with counsel, Robert T. Torres. He pleaded not guilty to the indictment charging him with mail theft and theft of mail by a postal service employee.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy set the jury trial for Aug. 15, 2017.

Kennedy released the de-

fendant on his own recognizance.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto appeared for the U.S. government.

According to the indictment, Tyquingco stole a package addressed to a person at his postal office box.

Tyquingco, then being a U.S. Postal Service officer or employee, unlawfully embezzled the package intended to be conveyed by mail, addressed to the person at his postal office box, from the Chalan Kanoa Post Office.

A source said a U.S. Army veteran owned the package.

'Start discussion to build new museum'

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Discussions between the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the CNMI Museum of History and Culture board should start now about possibly relocating the museum to a new building.

According to Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), a new facility won't only be an additional attraction to tourists, but would also educate the community about the Commonwealth's past.

The museum needs a significant amount of money so repairs could be made and other issues faced by the decades-old facility could be addressed. The roof leaks and the building suffers from other structural defects.

The Marianas Visitors Authority has set aside \$50,000 for the museum. The Ways and Means Committee of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation has allocated \$55,326 of \$588,037 from House Local Bill 20-4 for the same purpose.

The committee, chaired by Demapan, recommended the bill to be passed at the next SNILD delegation. Rep. Gregorio M. Sablan Jr. (R-Saipan) introduced HLB 20-4.

Demapan said the amount would take care of the museum's immediate needs as the facility has a lot of structural damage. He added that CNMI officials would like to see a new and permanent facility that would house CNMI artifacts and other materials related to the culture and traditions of the people.

"In the long run, what we'd like to see is to come up with funding so we could build a new museum. The museum for me is not only a tourist attraction but also a resource of our people," said Demapan. "It serves everybody, residents and tourists alike, so we need to have a museum that is adequate, proper, and safe for people to visit."

With new revenue coming in, the prospect of having a new museum is possible.

"One of the plans that could move forward is start discussing with DCCA and the museum's directors to start looking at a feasibility study or some kind of planning on potential new locations and how much it would take to build a new [museum]," said Demapan.

"Definitely, with new revenue coming in, projected again for the new fiscal year, and

with more economic activity, construction of a new museum would definitely be a project that we could pursue."

Private sector's help

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter said two companies have offered to help.

Torres said one of the companies that came forward is IT&E. "We actually got a verbal commitment from [IT&E chairman of the board] Ricky Delgado to sponsor the museum and look at how they could assist and work to improve it as a tourist attraction."

"We're also communicating with the Philippines to have a galleon in exchange of gold coins and other artifacts. The partnership is another way of collaboration when it comes to displaying the treasures we have," added Torres.

Hunter, meanwhile, said that another company has offered the use of their building while renovations are being done. "An offer was made to us by a company here to relocate space when renovated."

There are options on the table. I am no longer involved with the museum directly so I can't speak for the board."

Hunter declined to give further details of the proposed project. "There's no green light yet as to the other details. I'm not going to say anything in public yet. There are other offers of alternative sites and space. The news would be out in a few months. Whether we accept it or not is up to the board and the museum director."

Not permanent

Hunter said the museum's current location was supposed to be not permanent and a new facility was proposed more than 10 years ago. "A new museum was drawn up that would have a cultural center, Historic Preservation Office, Arts Council, CNMI archives, and several related offices."

"That project was going to be funded in part by [the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development], but it was killed a littler over a decade ago."

He added that the museum's building is almost 100 years old. "In six years it would be 100 years old so there are always going to be inherent structural problems. Now there are also foundation problems so it would be an expensive renovation."

PSS

From Page 1

Malate's mother, Maria Teresa, said.

An honor student from elementary to high school, Malate was this year's valedictorian at Marianas High School. Adding more luster to his credentials, he has been accepted to Harvard University, where he plans to pursue mechanical engineering.

That makes him the third student in CNMI history to go on to Harvard and the first student from the Public School System to earn a spot at the prestigious university.

"I got my talent and skills from my parents," said Malate.

Malate's father, Roberto, is an engineer at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., while his mother is an accountant.

"Growing up, I was curious about my dad's job. When he explained what he does at CUC, I didn't even know if it was true because he doesn't really use his advanced calculator but his answers were on point. My interest in engineering grew from there," Malate said.

Last June 7, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce chose him as one of its scholarship awardees. The scholarship was announced at the Chamber's meeting at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Carlyn Sablan, a member of the Chamber's Education

Committee, cited Malate's accomplishments at the awarding. "He was president of the National Speech and Debate Association for three years, was captain of his mock trial team and president of the National Honor Society during his junior and senior years. He received a full scholarship to attend the Junior Statesmen of America summer program at Princeton University in 2015, where he served as debate moderator and was voted by his peers as a motivational speaker."

Malate's journey to Harvard is not going to be an inexpensive one and the chance to take part in the Chamber's program proved attractive.

"When I learned that the

SCC was accepting applications for their scholarship program, I immediately thought that I have to apply because the grant will greatly help with my education and it had the criteria that I was looking for in a scholarship. I don't want opportunities like this to fly by."

Malate's ultimate dream is to establish an institute in the CNMI to teach physics and chemistry.

"I pray for God's guidance for the next four years of my college. After school, I plan to gain experience and see what the world has to offer. I will make the best of the opportunities and resources that I can amass and use them when I come back to CNMI," Malate said.

CUC

From Page 1

ers who consume 500 kWh a month will be able to save about \$5.26 in their monthly billing. The new FAC rate is effective this month and will be seen in the June billing cycle.

The FAC rate is determined when the Mean of Platts Singapore's monthly pricing equals or exceeds 4.5 percent of the average per gallon cost of fuel. MOPS is the average set of Singapore-based oil product price assessments that is published by Platts, a

company that is a provider of global energy, petrochemicals, metals, and agriculture information.

FAC was known as the levelized energy adjustment clause in 2009 before CUC renamed it to FAC in 2015 to provide customers a more accurate description of the rate.

The last FAC rate adjustment was on Feb. 1.

The FAC is used to purchase fuel and serves as one of the two components that make up a CUC power bill. The second component is the electric base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt servicing for CUC.

DPL

From Page 1

TOA, with an addition of at least \$250 or 8 percent of business gross revenue, and limited to 10,000 square meters per household.

Since the adoption of the new DPL regulations earlier this month, the annual grazing fee now costs at least \$225 per TOA. The new regulations also bumped up the limit of land per household to a maximum of 50,000 square meters.

With the new regulation, the annual grazing fee for 10,000 square meters would probably cost at least \$890, a significantly lower cost compared to the previous rate.

"In April [2017], we notified the people that we were amending our regulations," said DPL Secretary Marianne Teregeyo.

"We reduced a lot of our fees because our fees were unintentionally increased last year," she said. "That was not the intent because we are trying to help the farmers and promote sustainable eating."

THEFT

From Page 2

chases were under NMC's open fleet card.

A Shell Dandan receipt issued last March 10 also showed that Fejeran bought 21 gallons of gasoline worth \$81.45 using the NMC fleet card.

Aldan said that last May 2,

Fejeran allegedly instructed another NMC staff to bring a five-gallon container of gasoline from NMC shop to the Koblerville Gymnasium.

When the staff pointed out that the gym is too far, Fejeran allegedly instructed him to bring the gasoline to his house. Fejeran then allegedly transferred the gasoline into his vehicle. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Imperial Pacific, MVA work to enhance destination



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

At the junction of the American Memorial Park, similar enhancement work is initiated by Imperial Pacific's Corporate Social Responsibility team.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Walkways leading to Garapan get a fresh coat of paint.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility team initiate massive upkeep on the stretch of Beach Road in downtown Garapan.

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Imperial Pacific International has partnered with the Marianas Visitors Authority on the Garapan revitalization project.

MVA had sought the support of Imperial Pacific International through its Corporate Social Responsibility team for this destination-enhancement initiative.

"We reached out to CSR to assist with our destination enhancement efforts in Garapan because we've already established a great working relationship with [CSR executive director] Geri Dela Cruz and her hardworking team," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion.

IPI's CSR team have partnered with MVA with the successful staging of several events that promote the islands as a destination, among them MVA's 40th Anniversary Sunset Fun Run in January and the Ironman 70.3 Saipan in March. There are other MVA signature events that will be held throughout the year that Imperial Pacific's Corporate Social Responsibility team is a partner.

Imperial Pacific's CSR team had already taken the lead in the upkeep and maintenance of roadside curbs within

the stretch of Beach Road in Garapan.

"The idea of water blasting the sidewalks and adding a fresh coat of paint to curbs along Beach Road in Garapan was something that I discussed with my team early on. We saw the need for it because of all the activity happening there," Concepcion explained.

"[With] newer buildings on Beach Road, which are making the area more attractive, the sidewalks and curbs are starting to look rundown and in need of some beautification. A fresh coat of paint goes a long way in improving the aesthetic appeal of an area," he pointed out. "Since the MVA does not have the manpower to carry out this project, we immediately reached out to [Imperial Pacific through Dela Cruz] for her assistance and we are grateful for the support."

Dela Cruz said that Imperial Pacific is always ready to step up and support the government's work.

"When [Concepcion] sought our help, we jumped on board immediately because we know that the need is there," Dela Cruz said. (PR)

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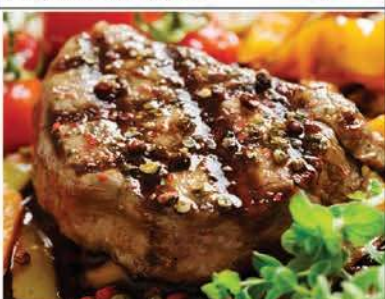
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International senior vice president Chuck McDonald presents a check for \$1,395 to the Marianas Visitors Authority on June 2, 2017, for the purchase of three automated passport machines for the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport. From left are MVA deputy managing director Judy Torres, MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, McDonald, IPI director of Marketing & Public Affairs David Largent, and IPI assistant VP of Compliance Dave Guerrero.

IPI helps shorten immigration wait time

Responding to an appeal from the Marianas Visitors Authority for help easing immigration processing time at the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport, Imperial Pacific International has donated funds for the purchase of three automated passport machines, or APCs.

IPI officials turned over \$139,500 to MVA officials last Friday. With the MVA's purchase of four machines already ordered, long wait times are expected to be improved.

"We're grateful to Imperial Pacific for answering our request to our membership last month for help," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "We continue to look for ways to support the airport and U.S. Customs & Border Protection in their important responsibilities that support the

tourism industry."

The machines can be used by U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, U.S. visa holders, and Electronic System for Travel Authorization holders.

"Imperial Pacific, as a corporate citizen and a partner to this community, remains steadfast with its commitment in supporting the economic development of the CNMI in every possible way it can contribute," the company said in a statement. "Imperial Pacific is humbled to be able to contribute toward the improvement in the processing time of tourists visiting the CNMI. With three additional APC machines, Imperial Pacific is optimistic that it will eventually ease the waiting time of tourists who come to visit our islands."

The Saipan airport received over 500,000 visitors last fiscal year. (MVA)

Chamber sets training seminar

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions, will conduct a seminar on Task & Time Management at the Chamber's conference room at the Marianas Business Plaza's Suite 315 on June 15,

from 9am to 12pm.

Registration is \$50 per person for Chamber members and \$55 per person for non-members. Light refreshments are included. To register, call 234-7150 or email coordinator@saipan-chamber.com. (PR)

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Find the **YoungStyle** section between Campus Life and Fotogalleria tabs.



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Kilili wants 'bad actors' blocked from CW program

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) wants the Department of Homeland Security to make companies that violate employment laws ineligible to participate in the foreign worker program, more commonly known in the Commonwealth as the CW-1 program.

"Companies that do not pay their workers what they are owed, companies that ignore federal safety standards in the workplace, should not have the privilege of using the CW program," Sablan said.

"We have too many legitimate businesses—and even

public institutions like the hospital—that still need foreign workers and find it increasingly difficult to get CW permits.

"Legitimate local businesses should not have to compete with the 'bad actors,' who break the law."

Sablan has already communicated his position to Homeland Security Secretary John F. Kelley. And this week Sablan followed up by transmitting the citations and notifications of penalties just issued by the Occupation Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor against MCC International

Saipan Ltd., Nanjing BeiLiDa New Materials System Engineering Co., and Gold Mantis Construction Decoration, Saipan LLC.

OSHA proposed penalties of \$193,750 against the three casino construction companies for workplace safety violations.

OSHA investigation of a construction worker's death on the casino site is still ongoing.

Both MCC and Gold Mantis have also run afoul of federal wage and hour law for not paying workers. And both companies have had to pay

large settlements to workers for back wages.

"Federal regulations on the CW permit system are very clear," Sablan said. "To be eligible to apply for a permit a business must comply with all federal—and Commonwealth—requirements relating to employment."

"This includes nondiscrimination, occupational safety, and minimum wage requirements."

"The CNMI government has already expressed its intention to collaborate with the U.S. Labor Department, cracking down on employ-

ers. Reporting employers who break Commonwealth employment laws and regulations to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is another way to show that the Marianas will not tolerate worker abuse, as would Marianas legislation blacklisting employers who flout the law."

Sablan returned to Washington, D.C. on Monday for a four-week stretch of legislative activity in Congress. High on his agenda is work on a long-term plan to ensure that the Marianas economy has sufficient labor to continue to develop and that the number

of U.S. workers relative to foreign workers keeps getting better.

"That is one more reason to clean out anyone who cannot follow the rules," said Sablan. "My work in Washington, [D.C.] is made all the more difficult, when the daily news is filled with pictures of worker protests and reports of death and injury on the job."

"By showing that the Marianas has zero tolerance for companies that do not respect the law we increase our ability to craft a new labor policy that will help us keep our economy growing." (PR)



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Free services at Cash for College workshop

Northern Marianas College is reminding students and members of the community about the free "Cash for College" workshop on Saturday, June 17, 2017.

The workshop will also be held on Tinian on June 20, 2017, at the NMC Tinian campus from 10am to 2pm, and on Rota on June 22, 2017, at the NMC Rota campus from 10am to 2pm.

The free workshop on Saipan will be held in Building A at the NMC As Terlaje campus. The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am to 12pm.

At the workshops, participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, CNMI Scholarship, Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, and the TEACH Grant.

Workshop participants can also have their financial aid documents notarized and photocopied, all without any charges or fees.

Staff members from the college's Office of Admissions and Records will also be present to provide information and assistance with the NMC admission application process.

In addition, those who participate in the workshop will qualify to have their NMC application fee and placement test fees waived for the upcoming fall 2017 semester. This waiver represents a savings of up to \$75.

Although not required, it is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid

U.S. passport, copy of valid application for a U.S. passport, birth certificate, or green card), an official transcript from high school (at least three official copies), copy of 2015 1040, copy of 2015 W-2 (if not filing), and proof of CNMI residency, including proof of continuing residency. Applicants for SHEFA should bring a valid U.S. passport or a voter registration card.

For additional information, contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at 237-6792 or email daisy.propst@marianas.edu. (NMC)

Pau Pau Triangle Swim kicks off open water series

Dolphin Club Saipan invites swimmers to join the first swim of the Summer Fun Open Water Series. The Pau Pau Triangle swim, happening tomorrow, June 10, at 7am at Pau Pau Beach, will have three courses to choose from: 3.5 kilometer, 1.5 kilometer, or a 50-meter course for new swimmers. Registration starts at 6am.

The Summer Fun Open Water Series is open to swimmers of all ages. Parental or swim team coach approval is required for minors. All swims are untimed and swim aids (fins, etc.) are welcome. Marker buoys and kayaks will

be used to guide swimmers.

Registration is \$20 for non-Dolphin Club Saipan members (includes cap) and \$5 for participants in 500 Sails/Dolphin Club Saipan's free swim classes. Series swims are free to lifeguards with proof of certification or approval prior to registration. Payment is due upon arrival by cash or check payable to 500 Sails. Registration fees help support Dolphin Club Saipan swim events and programs, including free Adult Learn-to-Swim and Family Swim classes.

Dolphin Club Saipan is the water safety program of 500 Sails. (PR)



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(10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan)
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Starting from Nov. 07, 2016, Dolphin restaurant brings out "Daily Chef's Special Lunch" from Mon. to Fri.; EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT! \$12 only, 15 servings per day; "First In First Out!"

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Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS**Troop store hosts town hall meeting today**

The Army & Air Force Exchange (troop store) is scheduled to conduct a town hall meeting today, June 9, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe, at 5pm. All AAFES patrons (active-duty, reserve, and National Guard service members and retirees, along with their eligible dependents) are invited to hear of upcoming plans for the new facility. For further questions, call AAFES at 322-6681. *(PR)*

Air Force training at FDM today

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla today, June 9, from 9:30am to 1:30pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. *(PR)*

VA benefits counselor to visit Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration will be visiting Saipan. A VA benefits counselor will be at the Saipan VA outreach clinic on June 28, 2017, from 9:30am to 3:30pm, to answer benefits questions, and assist with the claim process. The Saipan VA outreach clinic is located at the MH II Building, Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. To request an appointment, contact Ruth Coleman at 322-0035. *(PR)*

29th Annual Environment Conference set for June 13

The 29th Annual Pacific Islands Environment Conference on Saipan will focus on sustainable living and how to battle different climate challenges. This will be a three-day conference. Registration for all three days will cost \$50 online. Onsite registration will cost \$75. Northern Marianas College students may register for free. For additional information, visit the Division of Environmental Quality's website at deq.gov.mp or call BECQ at 664-8500. *(Saipan Tribune)*

Public schools to offer summer food service

The Public School System and the Summer Food Service Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture have launched a Summer Food Service that is going to run from June 5 to July 14, 2017.

Continued on Next Page

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From Page 11

The Summer Food Service is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by PSS. It will provide free lunches to children and teens (18 years old and younger) in public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The Saipan locations are Tanapag Middle School, Garapan Elementary School, Oleai Elementary School, Kagman High School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, and Koblerville Elementary School. The Tinian location will be at the Tinian Junior Senior High School. The Rota locations will be at the Sinapalo Elementary School and Rita H. Inos Junior Senior High School. No registration is required. Each child is entitled one lunch per day. Lunch is served at the locations from 11:30am to 12pm. For details call 664-3901 or 664-3902. *(Saipan Tribune)*

2017 Pistang Pinoy this Sunday

In celebration of the 119th Philippine Independence Day, the United Filipino Organization, in collaboration with the office of Philippine honorary consul to the CNMI, will be hosting the Independence Day festival, *Pistang Pinoy*, on Sunday, June 11, from 7am to 10pm, at the Marianas Business Plaza. The festivities will include live entertainment, game contests, a Pinoy photo gallery, a bounce house for the children, a boodle fight-eating area, and more. There will be a raffle drawing on the night of the festival, with the grand prize winner getting a roundtrip ticket to the Philippines. Food vendors will also be present. There will also be vendors for novelty items. The highlight of the night will be the awarding of "Batang Pinoy, Batang Saipan." During this segment of the festival, 14 young achievers will be recognized and awarded. *(PR)*

Comments sought on marine monument

The U.S. Department of the Interior secretary has been tasked by President Donald Trump under Executive Order 13792, issued on April 25, 2017, to conduct a review of national monuments. Public comments are being sought regarding the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. Deadline for comments is due July 10, 2017. To submit online comments, go to <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/05/11/2017-09490/review-of-certain-national-monuments-established-since-1996-notice-of-opportunity-for-public-comment>. Click on the "Submit a Formal Comment" green box on the right column. *(PR)*

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The 3rd Annual CNMI Women's Health Month would not have been a huge success without the untiring dedication and hard work of the Organizing Committee members and Community Partners.

Thank you to all of you who have helped in making the activities and events during Women's Health Month joyous and successful.

We would especially like to thank:

Community Partners:

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| Community Guidance Center | PSS Personal Responsibility |
| CGC – Systems of Care | Education Program |
| Ayuda Network Incorporation | Dept. of Fire & Emergency Medical Services |
| Department of Public Safety | Department of Community & Cultural Affairs |

USVI gets \$704K Interior grants

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Acting Interior assistant secretary for Insular Areas Nikolao Pula and other officials met with U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. Kenneth Mapp yesterday to discuss issues facing the territory. They discussed infrastructure challenges related to the hospitals and various initiatives Mapp has implemented and is developing to bring greater fiscal stability to the Virgin Islands.

The governor's trip coincided with the release of \$704,000 from the Office of Insular Affairs that will sup-

port Mapp's administration in several ways. Funds will be used to explore potential manufacturing and production in food and agricultural products and to save costs and improve the provision of public services in water distribution and maintenance and correctional safety.

"The governor and I were able to have frank discussions on his priorities for the U.S. Virgin Islands," said Pula. "I am pleased OIA is able to provide some assistance to worthy projects that will directly impact and enhance the

government's ability to deliver services and opportunities."

The projects funded by the funds are as follow:

■ Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority (\$250,000) to fund a study analyzing the feasibility of processing and packing local fruits and other agricultural plants to increase food resiliency and food security and how favorite local foods and plants can be produced for local consumption, gifts and export. This year, St. Croix held its 46th annual Agriculture and Food Fair themed "Agricul-

ture: Our Heritage and Hope for the Future!" and was the largest agricultural exposition in the territory and possibly the largest in the Caribbean. The grant will be used to help explore whether an existing cottage industry can be expanded to larger scale manufacturing and provide a much-needed economic boost to the territory. This is a first-time funded project.

■ USVI Bureau of Corrections (\$100,000) to provide help the USVI meet requirements under a U.S. District Court mandated settlement agreements requiring the USVI to maintain the health and safety of the population

under its control, to include comprehensive preventive maintenance for sanitation and environmental health and fire and life safety. Funds are also provided to training and materials and supplies necessary for efficient functioning of the prison system and meeting basic requirements under the law. Three facilities in the territory hold 600 inmates. Prior year shortcomings have prompted transfer of over 250 inmates to off-island facilities further distancing family members and costing approximately \$7.6 million. This is a first-time funded project.

■ Virgin Islands Water and

Power Authority

■ \$104,000 to purchase a hydraulic excavator and a compact roller to aid in the repair of water main breaks, and repair streets, sidewalks and roads following excavation projects. WAPA will see cost-savings from this grant as past repairs have required renting equipment at high cost.

■ \$250,000 to prepare a Water Systems Master Plan for St. Thomas and St. John. The funds will be used to update the 30-year old plan and identify rehabilitation, expansion, and efficiency-improving projects for water systems in the territory for the next 20 years. (PR)



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Ex-FBI director paints disturbing picture of talks with Trump

The new normal of Washington is abnormal. At daybreak Wednesday, as drama built about the Senate testimony Thursday of the FBI director fired by President Donald Trump, word came from the tweeter-in-chief that he had selected a new head of the bureau. Even White House senior staff members were surprised by the nomination of Chris Wray, a former Justice Department official in the administration of George W. Bush.

However, news of Trump's pick was swamped by the growing turmoil of the Russia investigation, a storm Wray must navigate should he be confirmed. Trump's apparent efforts to stop the counterintelligence probe of whether the Russians might have interfered with the 2016 election began even before he swore the oath of office.

Did Trump ask Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats to dissuade former FBI Director James Comey from continuing to probe former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, as several published reports contend? Other accounts say Trump asked National Security Agency Director Adm. Michael Rogers to deny that Trump's associates had colluded with Russian officials.

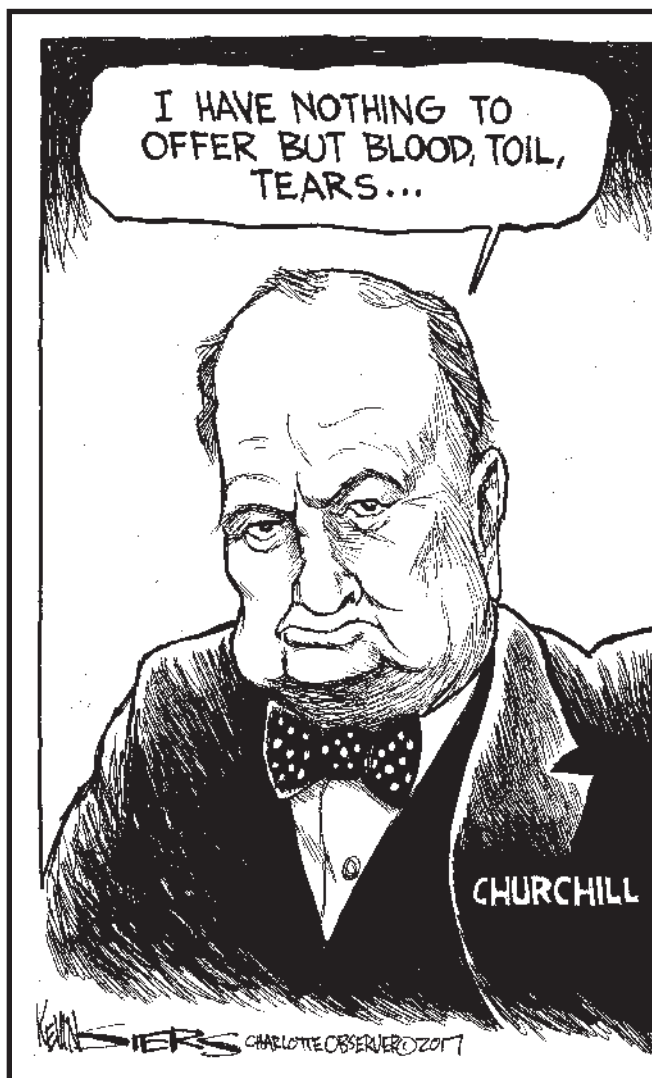
But Wednesday, Coats and Rogers refused to answer questions from the Senate Intelligence Committee about conversations with Trump and whether he had asked either to intervene in the Russia probe. Neither man invoked executive privilege, instead saying it would be inappropriate to discuss their conversations. Coats said he "never felt pressure" to intervene. Rogers said he was "never directed" to intervene, but both refused to answer whether Trump asked them to intervene.

It's troubling that when asked about the legal basis for his refusal to answer, Coats said, "I'm not sure I have a legal basis." There is none. Are they afraid of being fired like Comey? They must return and publicly answer those questions under oath.

After the hearing, the committee posted the written statement Comey plans to deliver Thursday, perhaps to allow the White House to prepare for what surely will be his devastating testimony. The statement generally supports Trump's comments that Comey told him on separate occasions he was not under investigation. Nor does Comey allege that Trump told him to end the Russian probe entirely. But all of these discussions depict a troubling pattern of pressure from Trump, leaving the impression that Comey's job security depended on the FBI backing off its investigation of Flynn. Clearly, Trump does not understand the critical need for the FBI and Justice Department to be independent. It's reflected in reports that Attorney General Jeff Sessions offered to resign because of Trump's lingering anger that Sessions recused himself from the Russia investigation. And it permeates Trump's interactions with Comey.

Take the surprise dinner invitation from the president that Comey interpreted as an effort to create a patronage relationship: "A few moments later, the President said, 'I need loyalty, I expect loyalty.' I didn't move, speak, or change my facial expression in any way during the awkward silence that fol-

See EX-FBI on Next Page



Necktie money!

This is the time of year when the young 'uns are looking around for summertime work. With that in mind, I'm going to take a look at the world of freelancing and remote working. And not any look, mind you, but one that's entirely random.

The world of remote working is ever evolving. Earlier this year IBM, which last I heard had nearly 400,000 employees, clipped the wings of some of its telecommuters and told them to return to the corporate offices.

I know several employees of large corporations who telecommute. In these circles there's some concern that IBM's action might send ripples into the broader scene. Might this portend a trend that puts the footloose back into the world of traffic jams, cubicles, neckties, and office politics?

I don't know. I doubt it. I suspect the overall trend is still favorable to remote workers. But the story does serve as a reminder that we can never take anything for granted.

Shifting to a closer focus, I know folks on Saipan and in Guam who have been remote workers, as freelancers, for 15 or 20 years. The islands are particularly well-suited to remote arrangements, especially for those with international language skills. The mix of nationalities creates a nexus for international engagement. Many of the workers I've known in these locales do basic administrative tasks such as data entry and record keeping.

There's also some action in credentialed professional circles, but I'm going to ignore that end of things today so we can tend the entry-level segment.

I'll offer an illustrative tale from my corporate days as a number-cruncher. The bane of my existence was data entry. Sometimes I could foist those tasks onto someone else. Sometimes I couldn't. At the start of one summer, a guy in the marketing department dropped by my office and said that his kid was looking for a summertime job, but rather than flipping burgers he wanted to do something with computers.

I cooked up a trial project and sent the marketing guy off with a 3.5-inch floppy disk (that's how we carried around data back then.) A couple of days later he brought back the disk. The kid had done a superb job. He soon became entrusted with the other bane of my existence, which was formatting output such as financial statements and graphs. He made serious money, not burger-flipping money, so it was a successful gig.

Of course, it helps to have a dad who is a senior marketing executive in a solvent company. If the kid didn't have that luck, he might have wound up flipping burgers that summer in spite of his aptitude for better-paying work.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.

I've heard quite a few business owners lament the difficulty, if not the utter impossibility, of finding people to handle tasks requiring low- to medium-level administrative skills. They have told me that they can't just present a simple project to their staff and say "take care of this." They'll get the deer-in-the-headlights look.

But it's perfectly reasonable to throw such projects at freelancers and to say, "Can you do this—yes or no?" Freelancers live for this stuff. Quite often, the only knowledge required is a functional familiarity with the usual software used in offices (word processors, spreadsheets, operating systems, etc.) along with the ability to learn the more involved features of the software when necessary.

As low as that bar is, it's certainly not for everybody, though. After all, the notion of "work" conventionally means being in a certain place at a certain time and collecting a guaranteed paycheck.

That's an entirely different world than having a project dropped into your lap, with a deadline to meet, and it's up to you to figure out how to do it and then to actually get it done. There's no guarantee that you'll get paid, or that your computer won't break the day before the deadline (oh, it will break; trust me on that). Some people thrive on these challenges. Those who do will find that even entry-level work builds abilities and contacts that are useful years, or even decades, down the road when the stakes are far higher.

One attribute these people have is that they're often studying something, such as computer books, in order to improve their skills. Nobody tells them to do this; it's just something that they do as a way to invest in themselves.

Well, such are my thoughts on the entry-level realm of freelance working. Summertime work can be a lot more than just a summertime job. With a little luck and a lot of gumption, it can lead to earning necktie-level money without having to wear a necktie.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The fatal price of progress

Our people have started feeling the shock of their lives when a major economic shuffle crash-landed here in recent past.

In Garapan, foreigners loaded with money have been buying house and property in the area. New owners evict local tenants so they could rebuild the place. Most won't be able to return as a result of the new increase in monthly rent.

Owners want casino employees or those in the middle-income bracket and above. It displaced just about every local tenant drowning in the filthy swamp of poverty income level and below.

Indeed, the free enterprise system is in full bloom. It is good for landowners but bad news for tenants who have been evicted. It's a highly disruptive change and could be the initial sign how locals would be priced out on most everything.

Sadly, though, this is the price of unbridled growth half-cocked visionaries never saw when they rammed casino down

the throats of "we the people" despite our voting against it twice. We've started falling off the ship. Do we now hop on a small boat to wave the iceberg of destruction to the side?

Perhaps the casino cabal could explain the price of progress in simple English over professorial fumbles riddled with inconsistencies, inadequacies and lack of clarity.

The sheer hardship finding a new family dwelling is difficult enough, not to mention constantly checking how far a dollar could stretch against the new monthly rent. Then there's the new setting for kids whose school may require moving to another campus.

Chenchule': Would the elected elite lend a hand on this issue? Their silence is rather deafening. Magoo related that the Lulu' Boysis are "too busy collecting chenchule' (money) from their sugar daddies, declaring "heard nothing, saw nothing, don't know anything."

Wow! And you're donning the collar of office as representa-

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

tives of the people? Are the troops dazed in ignorance or is it the dumb politics of elite condescension? Which is which?

Denañ Magellan related that she too wants to seek help. "But da boysis only accept real cash chenchule'". Try if they'd accept food stamps coupons!

A lot more of the critters of social evil would be marching in such as drugs, gambling addiction, prostitution and broken families over the long-term. Is this the price of progress for the "we few" and our future as displaced permanent hosts?

Exodus: Puerto Rico is strapped with a \$74 billion deficit as 400,000 of its people take an exodus to other states in search of greener pasture.

The experience is the same here. Remember when over 3,000 of our own joined others in an exodus searching for opportunities elsewhere? The choice is to stay behind and help your family or leave to help your own.

Obviously, this brings into focus the financial posture of the CNMI: cumulative deficit, obligations and the strength of its revenue generation. So far we've read of a \$471 million deficit excluding long-term debts. Would the NMI resort to bond flotation like Puerto Rico did years ago? It looks like a convenient path but one helluva a dangerous route, isn't it?

Labor issue: The NMI lacks the conviction to plan for its future. Most everything "temperamental" is embraced as its latest fad for its obvious lack of leadership.

This situation has crash-landed in the lack of meaningful opportunities even for returning scholars. Even those with advanced degrees have steered clear of what used to be home or paradise.

The exodus of nearly 4,000 of our own some eight years ago translates to less warm bodies for job openings here.

Unbridled growth isn't the path to follow. But in the absence of a fully thought-out plan it equally raises the issue of leadership that is grandly missing in this equation. The *que sera* syndrome isn't the answer either!

Sentimental: Promotion and graduation exercises come around this time of year. We see the happy faces of our kids who made it through junior and senior high schools. Congratulations!

The event brings back melancholic memory of yesteryears. My grandkids talk about flower leis for the occasion. I remember juggling which of my two old shirts (colorless after a year of constant washing) would fit the evening exercise.

Kids these days have safety net like school breakfast and lunch program. We didn't and had to make do with faucet water. Yep! You make pit stops on the closest drinking fountain between classes.

Most couldn't believe my literal trip up the mound of below abject poverty. Those were the good old days when food gathering from the farm and the sea occupied most of our days. But we were happy and contented with what little we had years ago, sticking to rugged indigenous work ethic.

With the steady hands of our parents we learned how to earn our dues and an appreciation of the value of the dollar. Yes, I've had my share of menial jobs just to bring home a quarter so mom could buy canned tuna or sardines for the family dinner. Back then a can of tuna was about 20 cents. It feeds the entire clan!

Our traditional lifestyle has kept most working folks highly productive, be it farming or fishing. Food gathering is doubled down at sea either at dawn, through the night, or dusk. It was an entire family activity.

I really miss the camaraderie among kids walking to and from family farms after school. We'd part and work on chores. It includes weeding between rows of plants to feeding farm animals at dusk. We'd carry firewood on our tired shoulders and head home. We'd tidy up, eat dinner, and kneel for rosary before hitting the books.

"Those were the days my friend I thought would never end."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Truth and consequences

There is a saying that "the truth will set you free" and the wisdom of this phrase speaks volumes as to how we should live and function in every way of life and in our interactions with each other. For me, to a large degree this opinion was inspired by the question by Mr. David Sablan which made it clear that the truth should and needs to be told about the CUC board and why Mr. Sablan was asked to resign.

I am not taking sides because I am a firm believer in truth, justice, and the consequences falling where they should. My problem with this issue is that to date there are still no formal charges of unethical or criminal behavior, which means there are no formal answers to the many allegations and questions raised by Rep. Ed. Propst. I'm not saying he is wrong but I am also not saying he is right as I have been waiting to see what the powers-that-be will do about charging anyone with ethical or criminal behavior. Rep. Propst has raised far more questions than answers but those answers have yet to come. This not to say that the answers are not in the process of being given because I'm sure all the authorities with some form of formal oversight on this matter are doing their homework. So to a large degree we still have to wait and see what the final word on this matter will be—a definitive answer that Rep. Propst is either right or wrong with his allegations.

The truth is the board was lynched without due process and the truth is our governor made the right "political decision" to change the entire CUC board in order to set CUC, his office and the people free of more controversy. No one can really contest the governor's decision because it does offer the best solution for all the stakeholders at CUC to have a new beginning. The truth is all the board members must now accept the consequences of their behavior. While "justice" (due process) is not required with the replacement of appointed individuals, there is still the lingering questions of unethical and criminal behavior that still need to be answered, even though the lynch mob has been satisfied. I say this because a lot of people have already convicted the board and GPSM; what if they are truly innocent?

Public record clearly shows a continuous feud between Mr. Sablan versus all the other board members. This is also not the first time Mr. Sablan was adamant against the actions of the other board members because I even wrote about how they need

to stop fighting. The board and GPSM have only been tried in the court of public opinion and we all know how public opinion can be dead wrong. I'm sure there are a lot of open-minded and objective people who are concerned for the real truth to come out, with the real answers to the questions raised by Rep. Propst.

Rep. Propst has done a lot of talking and finger pointing of blame but does he know the person he was praising could be the real source of the problem and may have even used him to put the board on the spot.

I would like to believe that most people are respectable and will wait for a formal answer from an accredited source before they start damming people.

Ambrose M. Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

Thank you

The CNMI Military/Veterans Affairs Office under the Office of the Governor would like to take the opportunity to thank the following government agencies, non-profit organizations, and individuals for their assistance, contributions, and participation in this year's Memorial Day ceremony. This memorable event could not have been possible without you all.

- Office of the Governor
- Office of the Lt. Governor
- Office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan
- CSM Benjamin C. Palacios
- Fr. Allan Cabatian (Diocese of Chalan Kanoa)
- Rep. Angel A. Demapan
- Rep. Gregorio M. Sablan Jr.
- Sen. Justo S. Quitugua
- Saipan Mayor's Office
- Tinian Mayor's Office
- Rota Mayor's Office
- Department of Public Works
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Division of Parks and Recreation (DLNR)
- Department of Homeland Security
- American Red Cross, John Hirsh, Kennedy Benjamin, staff and volunteers
- JROTC Manta Ray Battalion, Saipan Southern High School
- Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band
- Marianas High School Glee Club and Chorale
- HC60 Navy Helicopter Squadron, Guam
- Veterans of Foreign War Post 3457, commander Michael O'Kelley and members
- Blossom's Floral Shop

CNMI Military/Veterans Affairs Office

EX-FBI

From Page 14

lowed. We simply looked at each other in silence." After another inappropriate conversation in the Oval Office, Comey asked Sessions to shield the FBI from any pressure from the president and said he didn't want to be alone with Trump again.

The emerging picture of Trump trying to stop the Russian probe and interfering with the FBI is deeply unsettling. And there's nothing normal about that.

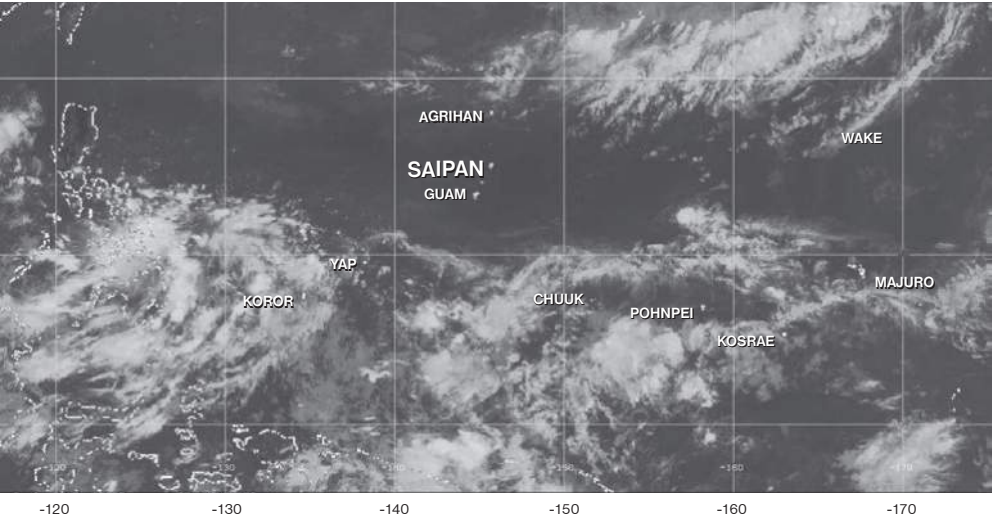
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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East to southeast winds 5 to 10 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲ 89° ▼ 78° | ▲ 89° ▼ 78° | ▲ 89° ▼ 78° | ▲ 89° ▼ 78° | ▲ 89° ▼ 78° |

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:50 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Weaker than expected winds allowed island convection to form over all the islands yesterday. Some locations also saw heavy rain at times, resulting in urban and small stream flooding during the afternoon. Similar conditions are likely today and possibly through the weekend as well. With the latest sounding showing a PWat of 2.26 inches and mid-level RH of 70% with little to no shear aloft, decided to add a slight chance of thunderstorms to the forecast for the afternoon today and Friday. Since it is likely for any thunderstorms that do form to move off shore, went ahead and included the slight chance of thunderstorms for the coastal waters as well, mainly west of the islands. Other than the afternoon convection, fair weather will dominate through the next week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

| MICRONESIA | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Guam and Rota | Mainly sunny | 91 81 °F |
| Palau | Showers | 85 78 °F |
| Yap | Partly cloudy | 85 74 °F |
| Chuuk | Partly cloudy | 86 80 °F |
| Pohnpei | Partly cloudy | 86 79 °F |
| Kosrae | Partly cloudy | 86 80 °F |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 84 80 °F |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|------------------|---------------|------------|
| Auckland | Mainly sunny | 59 49 °F |
| Beijing | Thunderstorms | 90 77 °F |
| Hong Kong | Partly cloudy | 86 81 °F |
| Honolulu | Partly cloudy | 85 74 °F |
| London | Rain | 68 57 °F |
| Los Angeles | Mainly sunny | 75 61 °F |
| Manila | Thunderstorms | 87 78 °F |
| Melbourne | Cloudy | 56 42 °F |
| Miami | Thunderstorms | 85 77 °F |
| New York | Sunny | 82 66 °F |
| Osaka | Partly cloudy | 84 60 °F |
| Paris | Rain | 73 57 °F |
| Pusan | Sunny | 87 65 °F |
| Rome | Sunny | 86 63 °F |
| Salem | Partly cloudy | 65 49 °F |
| San Francisco | Overcast | 66 53 °F |
| Seoul | Partly cloudy | 80 62 °F |
| Tokyo | Partly cloudy | 82 66 °F |
| Washington, DC | Sunny | 82 60 °F |

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | | FEET |
|----------------------------|-----------|--|-------|
| 1:41 AM | LOW TIDE | | 1.09 |
| 6:40 AM | HIGH TIDE | | 1.84 |
| 2:01 PM | LOW TIDE | | -0.19 |
| 8:52 PM | HIGH TIDE | | 1.81 |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 5:46 AM | 6:46 PM |
| Saturday | 5:46 AM | 6:46 PM |
| Sunday | 5:46 AM | 6:47 PM |
| Monday | 5:46 AM | 6:47 PM |
| Tuesday | 5:46 AM | 6:47 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| Today | - | 5:24 AM | 6:29 PM |
| Saturday | - | 6:09 AM | 7:18 PM |
| Sunday | - | 6:56 AM | 8:06 PM |
| Monday | - | 7:45 AM | 8:54 PM |
| Tuesday | - | 8:34 AM | 9:40 PM |

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 8, 2017

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA6394 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily | UA6393 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA6392 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily | UA6395 | 7:15am | 8:05am | Daily |
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota | UA6391 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA6390 | 2:20pm | 3:10pm | 2, 3, 6 | UA6390 | 12:10pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 via Rota |
| UA6398 | 6:05pm | 6:55pm | Daily | UA6397 | 4:45pm | 5:35pm | Daily |
| UA6396 | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily | UA6399 | 8:30pm | 9:20pm | Daily |
| SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) | | | |
| UA6391 | 1:30pm | 2:05pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA6390 | 12:10pm | 12:45pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) | | | | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA6391 | 2:35pm | 3:10pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA6390 | 1:15pm | 1:50pm | 2, 3, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| TW308 | 1:35am | 5:20am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | 7C3402 | 9:30am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| OZ626 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 | ZE581 | 10:10am | 3:55pm | Daily |
| TW308 | 2:35am | 6:20am | 6, 7 | TW307 | 7:00pm | 12:35am+1 | 7 |
| OZ626 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | TW307 | 7:05pm | 12:35am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| 7C3403 | 4:45am | 8:30am | Daily | OZ625 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| LJ652 | 5:20am | 9:10am | Daily | TW307 | 8:05pm | 1:35am+1 | 5, 6 |
| 7C3401 | 4:00pm | 7:45pm | Daily | OZ625 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| ZE582 | 4:45pm | 8:35pm | Daily | 7C340410:10pm | | 3:40am+1 | Daily |
| | | | | LJ651 | 10:50pm | 4:20am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 7C3451 | 3:10am | 6:10am | 1, 7 | 7C3452 | 9:00pm | 2:10am+1 | 4 |
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 | OZ607 | 9:05pm | 1:55am+1 | 3, 6 |
| 7C3451 | 4:00am | 7:05am | 4, 5 | 7C3452 | 9:05pm | 2:10am+1 | 3, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | | |
| MU764 | 1:30am | 6:35am | 3, 5, 7 | MU763 | 4:25pm | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6 |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 | 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8648 | 5:20am | 8:00am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | 3U8647 | 10:20pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL297 | 4:15pm | 7:00pm | Daily | DL298 | 10:20am | 2:50pm | Daily |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ626/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN | UA190/6397 | 9:55am | 5:35pm | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ626/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA6394/191 | 4:15am | 8:55am | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM | OZ702/625 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA6394/PR111 | 4:15am | 9:15am | Daily via GUM | UA192/6395 | 9:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM |
| UA6391/183 | 1:30pm | 8:50pm | 5 via Rota-GUM | UA184/6395 | 10:25pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA6391/183 | 1:30pm | 9:10pm | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM | PR110/UA6395 | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1 | Daily via GUM |
| UA6391/193 | 1:30pm | 10:40pm | 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR | UA184/6395 | 11:30pm | 8:05am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| UA6390/183 | 2:20pm | 8:50pm | 2 via GUM | | | | |
| UA6390/183 | 2:20pm | 9:10pm | 3, 6 via GUM | | | | |
| UA6390/193 | 2:20pm | 10:40pm | 2 via GUM-ROR | | | | |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) | | | | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| HX077 | 2:15am | 5:15am | 1, 4 | OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:20am | 11:40am | 1 via ICN | OZ722/625 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ626/721 | 2:50am | 11:40am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | UO42 | 4:50pm | 12:05am+1 | 2, 6 |
| UO43 | 4:40am | 8:10am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 | HX076 | 5:50pm | 12:45am+1 | 3, 7 |
| UA6391/159 | 1:30pm | 9:50pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM | UO42 | 6:05pm | 1:10am+1 | 1 |
| UA6390/159 | 2:20pm | 9:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM | UO42 | 6:10pm | 1:00am+1 | 3 |
| | | | | UO42 | 6:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 4 |
| | | | | UO42 | 6:40pm | 2:00am+1 | 7 |
| | | | | UA116/6395 | 10:45pm | 8:05am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

| TINIAN TO SAIPAN | | |
|------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 6:30AM | 6:45AM | Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM | 7:45AM | Daily |
| 8:30AM | 8:45AM | Daily |
| 9:30AM | 9:45AM | Daily |
| 10:30AM | 10:45AM | Daily |
| 11:30AM | 11:45AM | Daily |
| 12:30NN | 12:45NN | Daily |
| 1:30PM | 1:45PM | Daily |
| 2:30PM | 2:45PM | Daily |
| 3:30PM | 3:45PM | Daily |
| 4:30PM | 4:45PM | Daily |
| 5:30PM | 5:45PM | Daily |

| SAIPAN TO TINIAN | | |
|------------------|---------|-----------|
| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 7:00AM | 7:15AM | Daily |
| 8:00AM | 8:15AM | Daily |
| 9:00AM | 9:15AM | Daily |
| 10:00AM | 10:15AM | Daily |
| 11:00AM | 11:15AM | Daily |
| 12:00NN | 12:15NN | Daily |
| 1:00PM | 1:15PM | Daily |
| 2:00PM | 2:15PM | Daily |
| 3:00PM | 3:15PM | Daily |
| 4:00PM | 4:15PM | Daily |
| 5:00PM | 5:15PM | Daily |

| SAIPAN TO ROTA | | |
|----------------|---------|------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 7:45AM | 8:15AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM | 4:30PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

| ROTA TO SAIPAN | | |
|----------------|---------|------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM | 5:15PM | Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat |

Beware of scams to get your bank details

By **BEA CABRERA**
REPORTER

People are being advised to beware and be alert at all times when a person calls you, usually early in the morning, and asks for your bank account number.

One of the banks that operate in the CNMI, Bank of Hawaii, has issued a guideline on how to protect one's self from fraudulent transactions.

Primarily, Bank of Hawaii warned its customers to be careful who they give their information to.

"Do not give out personal information such as your social security number, credit card or bank accounts,

check routing codes or loan numbers over the phone to anyone who has called you, without first confirming who you are speaking to, why they need the information, and that they are who they claim to be.

"Be wary of extravagant claims, gifts, or prizes. Be on guard for suspicious mails or phone calls asking you to 'verify you as a lucky winner.' Get all promises in writing and review them carefully. If a caller tells you the payment is for taxes, he or she is violating federal law.

"Never pay for a 'free prize.' If a caller tells you the payment is for taxes or processing fees, he or she is vio-

lating federal law.

"Resist high pressure sales techniques. Legitimate businesses don't oversell their product. Don't be afraid to hang up the phone if you are not interested.

"Verify the organization. Try to obtain a physical address rather than merely a post office box. Call the given phone number to see if the number is correct and working. Check out the company with your local consumer protection office, Better Business Bureau, or the Attorney General's Office.

"If Bank of Hawaii calls you, the representative may ask you to verify your identity with account information that you should be able to provide. The information will not require full disclosure of personal identifying information or confidential financial information such as nine-digit SSN, user ID, passwords, PIN number, credit card numbers, account numbers, etc."

To confirm if a Bank of Hawaii email or phone solicitation is legitimate, forward the e-mail to esupport@boh.com or call the bank's 24-hour Customer Service Center at 643-3888 or call toll-free 1-888-643-3888. **(Bea Cabrera)**

CDAC records to be destroyed

The Public School System Early Intervention Program would like to inform parents of infants and toddlers who received Early Intervention Services at the Children's Developmental Assistance Center from 2009 to 2012 that your child's records are no longer needed by the program and will be destroyed in a manner that ensures all personal identifiers are removed from the record and the record is no longer personally identifiable.

The Early Intervention Program will maintain indefinitely a permanent record of your child's name, address, phone numbers, entry date, exit date, and eligibility information.

Records, other than the permanent information listed above, will be destroyed 30 days from the date of this notice.

For any other information, call Robin Palacios, interim coordinator, Early Intervention Program at CDAC, at 664-4841. **(PR)**

Benefits of Breastfeeding *for Mom*

Many mothers feel fulfillment and joy from the physical and emotional communion they experience with their child while nursing. These feelings are augmented by the release of hormones, such as:

Prolactin: Produces a peaceful, nurturing sensation that allows you to relax and focus on your child.

Oxytocin: Promotes a strong sense of love and attachment between the two of you.

Mothers who breastfeed recover from childbirth more quickly and easily. The hormone oxytocin, released during breastfeeding, acts to return the uterus to its regular size more quickly and can reduce postpartum bleeding.

Studies show that women who have breastfed experience reduced rates of breast and ovarian cancer later in life.

Some studies have found that breastfeeding may reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, and cardiovascular disease, including high blood pressure and high cholesterol.



Human milk is much less expensive than formula. During nursing you will need, at most, an extra 400 to 500 calories daily to produce sufficient milk for your baby, while formula can cost between \$4 and \$10 per day, depending upon the brand, type (powdered versus liquid), and amount consumed.

At night, putting a baby to your breast is much simpler and faster than getting up to prepare or warm a bottle of formula. (Your partner can make night feedings even easier by changing the baby and bringing her to you for nursing.)

Source:
New Mother's Guide to
Breastfeeding. 2011. American
Academy of Pediatrics.
Retrieved from
<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/baby/breastfeeding/Pages/Benefits-of-Breastfeeding-for-Mom.aspx>



"This advertisement has been brought to you by the CNMI Maternal and Child Health Bureau through funds by the US Department of Health & Human Services."



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-17-033 NMC SEWER LINE UPGRADE (S-14-035)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement and upgrade of sewer line in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists, in general of the replacement of asbestos cement pipe (ACP) in the area of Northern Mariana College, Fina Sisu. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The Project is to replace approximately ± 750 LF of existing 8-inch ACP, ± 20 LF of 10-inch force main, existing service lateral exploration work, 4-inch service lateral connections and clean-outs, installation of new concrete sewer manhole installation and abandonment of existing sewer manhole, installation and monitoring of wastewater temporary by-pass pumping system and road restoration.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **200 calendar** days from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **June 14, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “**CUC-IFB-17-033, NMC Sewer Line Upgrade**”, to the **CUC Procurement & Supply Office**, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 30, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 16, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator- via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email address birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLÁN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Stay safe this typhoon season

Typhoon season starts June 1 and preliminary forecasts are showing the potential for more tropical cyclone activities than in 2016. To help families stay safe, the American Red Cross is issuing six typhoon preparedness tips should a typhoon or tropical storm head toward the Marianas.

Here are the top six things you should do now to be ready for Typhoon Season 2017:

1. Talk with household members and create an evacuation plan. Be prepared to evacuate quickly and evacuate if told to do so.

2. Build an emergency kit with a gallon of water per person, per day, non-perishable food, a flashlight, battery-powered radio, first aid kit, medications, supplies for your infant, a multi-purpose tool, personal hygiene items, copies of important papers, cell phone chargers, extra cash, and emergency contact information.

3. Get access to radio broadcasts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Purchase a battery-powered or hand-crank NOAA weather radio or simply dial 211.

4. Protect windows with permanent storm shutters or invest in one-half inch ma-

rine plywood that is pre-cut to fit your doors and windows. Identify a place to store outdoor furniture, toys, tools and trash cans (away from stairs and exits) to prevent them from being moved by high winds and possibly hurting someone.

5. Be informed. Learn about your community's typhoon response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special medical needs and make plans for pets.

6. Download the free Red Cross Emergency App for expert guidance on what to do before, during and after

typhoons as well as 34 other types of emergencies. All Red Cross apps can be found in smartphone app stores by searching for American Red Cross or by going to redcross.org/apps.

If you already have a disaster kit, now is the time make sure the food and water is still okay to consume and that copies of important documents are up to date. If an emergency plan already exists for your household, family members should talk about it again so everyone knows what to do and where to go if an emergency occurs. **(PR)**

Book launch on June 17

MANGILAO, Guam—The University of Guam Press will launch its latest publication *I Afabeton Chamorro: An Alphabetical Journey Through the Culture of the Mariana Islands* on Saturday, June 17, 2017, from 3pm to 5pm at the Two Lovers Point gift shop.

I Afabeton Chamorro was created through a collaborative effort involving teachers, students, artists and photographers from Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. It is a visually captivating book featuring the writing of upper division Chamorro language

students from the University of Guam and photography and artwork from a group of talented local artists. Each letter of the Chamorro alphabet is used to describe a significant cultural concept, story, or item, which is written about in Chamorro, English, and Japanese.

Book contributors and artists will be present at the launch to discuss their work. Chamorro *chesa* (appetizers) will be served and both hardcover and paperback versions of the book will be available for sale. **(PR)**



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: 235-5131



WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2016 CUC Annual Water Quality Report is now available on-line!

Please go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/CCR-2016.pdf> to view what contaminants were detected in your water in 2016 and to learn more about your drinking water. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

AYOOR REPOD

Yóómw 2016 CUC Annual Water Quality Report nge a llo on-line!

Uló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/CCR-2016.pdf> bwe ubwe weri meta mil ngaw kka re schungi llól yóómw schaal llól 2016 me ubwe bawghi mataf reel úlómómw schaal. Amataffal kkal nge egghi auscheya reel yááyál me ghatchúl yóómw schaal.

Faingi CUC reel (670) 664-4282 ngare u tipeli rebwe seleti ngalúgh amataff kkal, kkapas ngali eschay, me ngare u mwuschel eew kkopiyal rebwe bwughi lló reemw me ngare afanga ngálugh.

GUMUAHA RIPOT PÁ'GU

I ijom-mu 2016 CUC Annual na Ripot Kuálidât Hånum esta pá'gu gumuaha gi on-line!

Put fabot hânão para i <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/CCR-2016.pdf> para u ma'atan hâfa na contaminants manmasodda' gi halum hanom-mu gi 2016 yan para un tung'u más put i hanum magimin. Esti na ripot ha sasahguan siha manimpottânti na imfotmasion put i source yan kuálidât i hanum magimin.

Yanggin un nisisita i ripot matranslâda, ya malagu' hão kumuentusi hâyi put i ripot pat malagu' hão kopian páppit u ma'entrega pat mana'hânão guatu para hâgu, put fabot âgang i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-17-023, Rev.2

OEM—Assessment & Preventative Maintenance Services for the Diesel Engine Systems at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for OEM-Assessment & Preventive Maintenance Services (PMS) for the Diesel engine systems at CUC Saipan Power Plant No. 1, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS (OEMs) or their authorized licensees from which CUC intends to select the most responsive proposer to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's requirements. The term for the initial contract is for a period of ONE (1) year which may be extended or renewed upon mutual agreement.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **June 15, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the CUC Power Plant No. 1 facility will be conducted. Prospective Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-17-023, Rev. 2, OEM-Assessment & PMS for the Diesel engine systems at CUC Saipan Power Plant 1, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than July 7, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be administered by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 19, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Utility Coordinator for Power via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org, Richard Cano, CUC Power Generation Manager via email richard.cano@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLÁN, Jr.
Purchasing Administrator

Tony Roma's raises \$500 for wish group



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tony Roma's general manager Atsushi Aoki stands with Triple J marketing manager Iliana Pacheco, Eleanor T. Cabrera, Make-A-Wish CNMI board member; and Tony Roma's restaurant manager Carolina Lucenara.

Throughout the month of May, Tony Roma's Saipan participated in the Make-A-Wish appetizer card promotion, with half of the proceeds going directly to the foundation. Locations in Guam and Florida also participated.

"This fundraising promotion was a no-brainer to help [children] in need," said Tony Roma's Saipan general manager Atsushi Aoki. "We are so happy to participate and raise funds for this incredible foundation."

He noted that many patrons were excited to be a part of raising money for Make-A-Wish.

Tens of thousands of volunteers, donors, and supporters advance the Make-A-Wish vision to grant the wish of every child diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition. In the United States and its territories, on average, a wish is granted every 34 minutes. The Make-A-Wish Foundation first began in 1980 and has raised millions of dollars over the past 37 years.

Eleanor T. Cabrera, CNMI member of the Make-A-Wish board, said, "On behalf of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam & CNMI, I thank Tony Roma's Saipan and the Triple J family for their donation. Our foundation serves Guam and the CNMI by granting wishes of medically eligible children who are between the ages of 2-1/2 and 18. We are dedicated to making every eligible child's wish come true, and the ongoing support of generous companies, like Triple J Enterprises, helps us and the community immensely."

For more information about and referrals to Make-A-Wish Guam & CNMI, call (671) 649-9474 or (670) 483-9474 or email info@guam.wish.org. (PR)



CNMI

SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

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| PROGRAMS | WHO CAN APPLY |
|---|--|
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| Priority Fields of Study (PFoS) | Full/part time students enrolled and majoring in our approved PFoS. |
| Incentive | Juniors/Seniors pursuing a degree in our PFoS with CGPA of 2.75 (or higher) and last term GPA of 3.5 (or higher), and enrolled in 15 credits or more. |
| Commonwealth College Access Grants (CCAG) | High School Jr./Sr. with CGPA of 2.75 or higher enrolled in Dual or Early Enrollment Program. (ongoing recipients must have a CGPA of 2.75, or higher, in the Dual/Early Enrollment Program) |
| Marianas Employees Financial Aid (MEFA) | Full time employees in the CNMI enrolled part time at NMC or accredited online program to pursue a degree or certificate |
| Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) | One time award for full time employees in the CNMI enrolled at Northern Marianas College for BE200 only. |
| Graduate School Student Loans (GSSL) | Applicants with a Bachelor/Master degree pursuing a higher degree in a graduate school program. |
| Vocational Trade Aid (VocAid) | Students from NMTI & Latte Training Academy or any certified Trade School in any US Territory. |

CNMI SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE



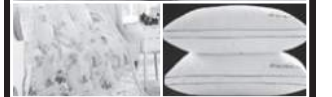
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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-17-IFB-014

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF A BACKHOE LOADER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for Supply and Delivery of a Backhoe Loader for the Department of Public Works, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **June 2, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-17-IFB-014"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **9:00 a.m. local time June 23, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. local time, **June 23, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 23, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than July 5, 2017. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **9:00 a.m. local time, July 7, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **9:30 a.m. local time, on July 23, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:


- Cash
- US Gov't Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Two Hundred Thirty (230) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred (US\$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.


All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

James A. Ada
Secretary of Public Works

Herman S. Sablan
Director of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW-17-RFP-021

ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE SAIPAN & NORTHERN ISLANDS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BUILDING FOR THE 13TH SAIPAN & NORTHERN ISLANDS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, CHALAN KANOA, CNMI

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Secretary of Public Works are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies or individuals for the Saipan Municipal Council Building, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **\$70-30.3-305** (competitive sealed proposals) of the Procurement Regulation. Also, the provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC Section **\$70-30.3-725 & \$70-30.3-730** Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent fees shall apply.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Esther S. Flemming, Executive Director at telephone numbers (670) 234-5897/5898 or by facsimile to (670) 234-6040.

The Request for Proposal and Scope of Work is available on or after **June 09, 2017** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan.

A **Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference** is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. local time at the Project Site on **June 27, 2017**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 2:30 p.m. local time **July 11, 2017**.

SELECTION CRITERIA: This procurement is made in accordance with \$70-30.3-305 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications and Experience - 50%**
- Organization and Capacity - 35%**
- Response to Request For Proposal (RFP) – 15%**

The entire Proposal must not be more than thirty (30) pages in length. A firm that submits a Proposal as a prime consultant cannot submit as subconsultant on another Proposal. However, a sub-consultant may submit as sub-consultant on proposals by more than one prime consultant.

The successful Proposer may be subjected to a responsibility determination in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, **\$70-30.3-245**.

Sealed proposals must be marked **"DPW-17-RFP-021"**. For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted Director of Procurement and Supply, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **July 20, 2017**. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **July 20, 2017**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **July 20, 2017** and must be received no later than **July 28, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion there from, shall be conducted with at least three of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. Fee proposals may be solicited upon public announcement; however, this information shall not be considered in the selection of the most highly qualified firms. Fee proposals may be used in determining a fair and reasonable price.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

James A. Ada
Secretary of Public Works

Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

Luis John Dlg. Castro
Chairman, 13th Saipan & Northern
Island Municipal Council

Business

Trump promises ‘first-class’ infrastructure system for US

CINCINNATI (AP)—Dogged by allegations in Washington, President Donald Trump traveled to friendlier territory Wednesday and promised to create a “first-class” system of roads, bridges and waterways by using \$200 billion in public funds to generate \$1 trillion in investment to pay for construction projects that most public officials agree are badly needed and long overdue.

“America must have the best, fastest and most reliable infrastructure anywhere in the world,” Trump said, pushing his infrastructure plan in middle America as Washington geared up for Thursday’s appearance before Congress by fired FBI Director James Comey.

“We will fix it,” said Trump, standing along the Ohio River. “We will create the first-class infrastructure our country and our people deserve.”

But the controversies and distractions in Washington continued to dog the president throughout the day. As he was speaking, the Senate intelligence committee released the prepared testimony Comey is expected to deliver Thursday. It includes detailed descriptions of meetings and phone conversations between Trump and Comey.

In the speech, the president also pressed the Senate to send him a health care bill, criti-

Air traffic privatization plan hits turbulence in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump’s plan to privatize the nation’s air traffic control system is running into bipartisan opposition in Congress, where Republicans fret that it could raise costs for air travelers and hurt small airports.

Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., called the proposal “a tough sell” in states like his, where small airports are common. At a hearing Wednesday, Wicker told Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao that “the sale needs to be made, and it needs to be made convincingly” if the administration hopes to move forward with a plan that U.S. airlines and some House Republicans have long advocated.

Sen. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., said privatization would hurt “all but our largest airports nationwide,” while removing needed congressional oversight and raise costs for consumers.

Democrats also opposed

cized congressional Democrats as “obstructionists” and revisited his controversial decision to pull the U.S. out of the Paris climate agreement.

Trump said that as he campaigned across the country last year, people often asked him why the U.S. was spending money to rebuild other countries when the roads and bridges they travel on needed rebuilding, too.

Trump declared the days of spending on other nations are over: “It’s time to rebuild our country” and to “put America first,” he said.

While infrastructure initially was seen as an area where Republican and Democrats could work together, Democrats have balked at Trump’s plan for using tax incentives and public-private partnerships to finance improvements. Many argue such a plan would result in taxpayer-funded profits for corporations with the cost loaded onto consumers.

Before the speech, Trump met aboard Air Force One with a pair of families the White House said were “victims” of the Obama-era health care law that the president and congressional Republicans want to repeal and replace.

Trump said the families—one from Ohio and another from Kentucky—are going through “turmoil” along with millions of other consumers

who are facing rising premiums and limited choices for health coverage under the 2010 law.

“It’s just crazy expensive,” said Dan Withrow, president and owner of a pallet packaging and distribution company in Louisville, Kentucky. “Deductibles have gone crazy, the costs of the plans have gone crazy, and what I’ve done is I’ve absorbed most of the increases just so I can keep happy employees.”

“If I passed it all on to them, they would be paying outrageous rates,” he said.

“Now it’s time for the Senate to act and save Americans from this catastrophic event because Obamacare is dead,” Trump said. “Obamacare was one of the biggest broken promises in the history of politics. Remember ‘you can keep your doctor, you can keep your plan?’ Didn’t work out that way.”

The Republican-controlled House has passed a health care bill that no Democrats supported. Senate Republicans are working on their own version.

Trump also mentioned his announcement last week that he was pulling the U.S. out of what he dismissively referred to as the “so-called” Paris climate accord. Trump has said the pact that nearly 200 nations agreed to in 2015 was unfair to the United States.

the changes, warning that airline interests would dominate a proposed board that would oversee an estimated 300 air traffic facilities and around 30,000 employees.

Lawmakers from both parties also pointed to the unprecedented safety under the current system, noting the last fatal crash of a domestic passenger airliner was eight years ago.

“We currently have the safest air-traffic control system in the world. Why risk that by handing the whole thing over to an untested, unproved entity?” asked Florida Sen. Bill Nelson, the senior Democrat on the Senate Transportation committee.

While the U.S. “remains the gold standard in aviation,” the president’s plan would spur innovation and modernization, Chao said.

“Our skies are becoming increasingly congested,” she said, noting that some domestic flights take longer now than they did decades ago be-



DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES 2017 Summer Youth in Transition Camp

Sports & Wellness Camp
for Children ages 6 – 13 years old

Camp A

June 19 – 23, 2017
7:30am – 11:30am
Monday – Friday
at Hopwood Jr.
High School



Camp B

June 26 – 30, 2017
7:30am – 11:30am
Monday – Friday
at Carolinian Utt

Pick-up/drop off applications at:

- Division of Youth Services – Tanapag Youth Center (TYC)
 - Division of Youth Services – Administration Office
 - Koblerville Youth Center
 - Carolinian Affairs Office

All applications must be submitted no later than
Friday, June 09, 2017 at 4:30pm
Contact the DCCA – Division of Youth Services at 664-2550/2599
Website: www.dys.gov.mp

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Pick-up/Drop off applications at:

- DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES – TANAPAG YOUTH CENTER
 - KOBLERVILLE YOUTH CENTER
- GARAPAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CWA)
 - CAROLINIAN AFFAIRS OFFICE (CAO)

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS ON JUNE 09, 2017
ORIENTATION FOR ALL ON: JUNE 14, 2017 AT TANAPAG YOUTH CENTER AROUND 3:00PM.
COME ALL & HAVE A GREAT SUMMER TIME!



Nation

Comey: Trump sought to ‘lift the cloud’ of investigation

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fired FBI Director James Comey will testify under oath Thursday that President Donald Trump repeatedly pressed him for his “loyalty” and directly pushed him to “lift the cloud” of investigation shadowing his White House by declaring publicly the president was not the target of the probe into his campaign’s Russia ties.

Comey’s detailed and vivid recollections of his one-on-one conversations with Trump were revealed in seven pages of prepared testimony released Wednesday, the day before his much-anticipated appearance before the Senate intelligence committee.

His remarks paint a picture of an FBI director so disconcerted by his interactions with the president that he began keeping written memos of their private discussions. He’ll tell lawmakers he be-

lieved the president was trying to create a “patronage relationship” with him and describe in detail an Oval Office meeting in which Trump urged him not to investigate ousted National Security Adviser Michael Flynn’s contacts with Russian officials.

But the ex-FBI director also will validate Trump’s assertion that he was not personally a target of the federal counter-intelligence investigation into possible campaign collusion with Russia. Comey says he did offer the president that “assurance,” but resisted Trump’s appeals to make that information public.

“The FBI and the Department of Justice had been reluctant to make public statements that we did not have an open case on President Trump for a number of reasons, most importantly because it would create a duty to correct, should that change,” Comey says in the prepared remarks.

Trump’s personal lawyer said Trump was cheered by the testimony.

“The president is pleased that Mr. Comey has finally pub-



Comey

licly confirmed his private reports that the president was not under investigation in any Russian probe,” attorney Mark Kasowitz said in a statement.

“The president feels completely and totally vindicated. He is eager to continue to move forward with his agenda.”

Comey has not spoken publicly since he was abruptly fired by Trump on May 9. His dismissal, four years into a 10-year term, fueled claims Trump’s ultimate aim was to quash the investigation and obstruct justice, potentially a federal crime or an impeachable offense. Some legal experts said Comey’s account could bolster such a case.

Ryan Goodman, a professor at New York University School of Law, said Trump’s efforts to protect Flynn provide “strong evidence” of obstruction of justice. However, Jonathan Turley, a law professor at George Washington University, said that while Trump’s dealings with Comey were inappropriate, “We do not indict people for being boorish or clueless.”

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

P.O. BOX 501370

SAIPAN, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fifteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cafeteria of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School on Rota, MP 96951

AGENDA¹

I. Preliminary

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Adoption of Minutes

a. May 17, 2017 Special Board Meeting

II. Public Comments²

III. Reports

1. Chair

2. Board Committees

a. CIP

b. FPA

c. ISA

d. LIA

e. SICPP

f. SARC

3. Commissioner of Education

a. Financial Status Reports

i. Federal

ii. Local

b. Head Start Program

c. 2017 Promotion/Graduation

d. HRO Updates

e. Student Discipline Report

f. FNS Report

i. Meals Per School

ii. Corrective Action Plan

g. OPT Report

h. CIP Status Update Report

i. Key Management Composition & Schedule

j. Ad Hoc Committee Report

i. Survey Results

ii. Property Appraisal

k. Relocation of BOE Office to New Bldg

l. Others

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business

1. RFP on Strategic Plans for Schools Relocation

2. RFP on Seven Year Master Plan for PSS

3. Incentive Plan for Hard to Fill Positions

4. Preparation of School Year 2017-2018

a. Teacher's Recruitment

b. Enrollment

c. Purchase of Basic Instructional Supplies

5. Teacher/Student Ratio

6. Summer Professional Development

a. Goals/Schedules

7. Student Assessment for School Year 2016-2017

8. Addendum to the Public Notice of Proposed Rules and Regulations

9. Head Start and Early Head Start Supplemental Cola Certification and Licensure Matters

a. CLO Report 2017-007

VI. Executive Session³

1. Legal Updates

2. Personnel/Certification

3. Other matters

VII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

VIII. Adjournment

¹ In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.

² Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

³ Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Some states review election systems for signs of intrusion

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—Officials in some states are trying to figure out whether local election offices were targeted in an apparent effort by Russian military intelligence to hack into election software last fall.

The efforts were detailed in a recently leaked report attributed to the U.S. National Security Agency.

North Carolina is checking on whether any local systems were breached, while the revelation prompted an election security review in Virginia. Both are considered presidential battleground states.

In Illinois, officials are trying to determine which election offices used software from the contractor that the report said was compromised.

The three are among eight states where election offices had contracts with VR Systems, a Florida-based com-

pany that provided software to manage voter registrations. The others are Florida, California, Indiana, New York and West Virginia.

The report, dated last month, asserts that hackers obtained information from company employees and used that to send phishing emails to 122 local election officials just before the election last November in an attempt to break into their systems.

So far, there is no indication that voting or ballot counting in any states were affected. Officials in at least five counties in Florida - a key political swing state - received the emails, the Miami Herald reported. It's not clear where else the emails may have been sent.

But the revelation, published by the online news outlet The Intercept, set off questions in the states where VR provides software.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950

TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

As of June 9, 2017

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION | LOCATION | TYPE | STATUS |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Sydney Takahashi dba Fishguyz SCUBA & Charter | 5/24/2017 SLR-2017-X-064 | Marine Sports SCUBA Operation | Susupe, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved-5/25/2017 |
| 2. Blanco, LLC dba SCUBA Element | 5/24/2017 T/SLRm-2009-X-042 | Marine Sports SCUBA Operation | Chalan Kanoa, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved-5/26/2017 |
| 3. Commonwealth Utilities Corporation | 5/26/2017 SSCHWm-2017-X-065 | Sewer line Replacement | San Antonio, Saipan | Multiple APCs | Approved-5/30/2017 |
| 4. Hi-Five Co., Ltd. | 5/30/2017 SLRm-2001-X-179 | Marine Sports Snorkeling Operation | Garapan, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved-5/31/2017 |
| 5. JY Corporation dba JY Reef Rider | 5/30/2017 SLRm-2013-X-047 | Marine Sports SCUBA Operation | Susupe, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved-5/31/2017 |
| 6. Bridge Investment Group | 6/2/2017 TMS-2017-X-067 | Construction of Commercial Terminal | San Jose, Commercial Dock, Tinian | Major Siting | Under Review |
| 7. Kan Pacific, Saipan Ltd. | 6/5/2017 SSCHW-2017-X-068 | Topographic Survey | Marpi, Saipan | Multiple APCs | Under Review |
| 8. Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) | 6/6/2017 SPI-2017-X-069 | Soil Investigation | Lower Base, Saipan | Ports & Industrial | Under Review |
| 9. Skywalker Holdings, LLC | 6/6/2017 SW-2017-X-070 | Pre-fabricated Residential Home | Papago, Saipan | Wetlands & Mangroves | Under Review |
| 10. Ocean Sports Corp. dba Aqua Dive | 6/8/2017 SLR-2017-X-071 | Marine Sports SCUBA Operation | Garapan, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |

§15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulation requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major siting's. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

¹ In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.

² Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

³ Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Asia

North Korea fires suspected cruise missiles after US drills

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea fired several suspected short-range anti-ship missiles Thursday, South Korea's military said, in a continuation of defiant launches as it seeks to build a nuclear missile capable of reaching the continental United States.

The projectiles were fired from the North Korean eastern coastal town of Wonsan and likely flew about 200 kilometers (about 125 miles) while reaching a maximum altitude of about 2 kilometers (1.2 miles), South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said. They landed in waters between the Korean Peninsula and Japan, where U.S. aircraft carriers USS Carl Vinson and USS Ronald Reagan participated in joint exercises with the South Korean navy that ended earlier this week.

The North's missile tests present a difficult challenge to new South Korean President Moon Jae-in, a liberal elected last month who has expressed a desire to reach out to Pyongyang. North Korea, which could have a working nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missile in the next several years, may also be the most urgent foreign policy concern for the Trump administration, which has been distracted by domestic political turmoil and has insisted China do more to rein in the North's weapons activities.



People watch a TV news program showing a file footage of a missile launched by North Korea, at Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, June 8, 2017. AP

Roh Jae-cheon, spokesman of Seoul's military, said the latest launch would have intended to show off its widening array of missiles and also its "precision strike capabilities" on ships in response to the joint drills.

North Korea's weapons tests are meant to build a nuclear and missile program that can stand up to what it sees as U.S. and South Korean hostility, but they are also considered by outside analysts as ways to make its political demands clear to leaders in Washington and Seoul. Analysts say the latest test appeared to be aimed at keeping up pressures on Moon, who convened a National Security Council meeting in Seoul over the launch.

The launches Thursday were North Korea's fourth missile test in as many weeks as the country continues to

speed up its development of nuclear weapons and missiles.

Kim Dong-yub, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies, said the projectiles, which showed longer range than North Korea's previously known KN-01 anti-ship cruise missiles that can travel up to 160 kilometers (99 miles), were likely from a new cruise missile system North Korea displayed during a massive April 15 military parade. The improved range indicates the North is pursuing weapons capable of reaching U.S. aircraft carriers that operate from deeper positions, he said.

Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said after Thursday's launch that Tokyo has not detected any "flying objects" that headed toward Japan or landed inside the country's maritime economic zone.

ble burning spread on social media. At the time, police said soldiers burned rubbish and distributed photos of a burned book on theology that they annotated with text saying "this is not the Bible." Three protesters suffered gunshot wounds when police dispersed the crowd.

Pole banned from Nepal mountains after illegal entry

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—A Pole who illegally traversed Mount Everest has been banned from climbing in Nepal for 10 years and faces deportation, an official said Thursday. Janusz Adam Adamski, 49, had scaled Everest from the Chinese side last month and descended on Nepal's side, said Nepal's Mountaineering Department official Durga Dutta Dhakal. Adamski had no visa to enter Nepal or permit to scale Everest, he said. Dhakal said the Mountaineering Department imposed the ban and handed him over to the Immigration Department, which is likely to deport him. Adamski is the second climber who was banned this year after South African Ryan Sean Davy was caught attempting to scale Everest without the permit last month. Hundreds of climbers and their guides scaled Everest during the spring mountaineering season from both Nepal and Chinese sides of the peak. The season ended last week. Climbers must the \$11,000 fee and get a permit from Nepalese authorities.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Blast at Indian fireworks factory triggers deadly blaze

NEW DELHI (AP)—Local news agencies say an explosion at a fireworks factory has killed 23 workers in central India. Press Trust of India cites district police official G. Janardhan as saying the blast occurred Wednesday afternoon while workers were producing firecrackers in Kheri village, in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The explosion triggered a blaze that engulfed the factory before firefighters put it out. PTI reported that 23 were killed. Another seven were injured and were being treated in hospitals for burns and smoke inhalation. Authorities are investigating the cause of the explosion.

Church says Papua riot sparked by military burning Bibles

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A major church in Indonesia's predominantly Christian Papua province says a riot in the provincial capital last month was sparked by the military burning Bibles, contradicting the police account of events. A report by the Evangelical Christian Church in Papua says a priest and another man from a local congregation took photos of burnt Bibles at a military base in Jayapura and took several away as evidence. It says they tried to calm the crowd that gathered outside the base on May 25 after reports of Bi-



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the Public Housing Authority (PHA) for the CNMI and is authorized to administer the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP), which is a Federal program funded under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 Housing Assistance Program, that provides temporary housing assistance for low-income families. HUD regulations provide that NMHC have an administrative plan to establish policies for implementing and managing the HCVP in a manner consistent with funding source requirements and local objectives.

NMHC is responsible for complying with all changes in program regulations pertaining to the HCVP. NMHC has made proposed amendments to the Section 8 Administrative Plan for Rental Assistance Programs to address NMHC's overall management of its tenant accounts receivables by incorporating Section 18, which contains proposed accounts receivables policies and procedures.

NMHC will conduct a public hearing to solicit comments from the public on July 24, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at the following locations; in addition, copies of the draft Section 8 Administrative Plan for Rental Assistance Programs Amendments under the HCVP are also available at the following locations identified below and on our website at www.nmhc.gov.net.

| NMHC MAIN OFFICE ON SAIPAN | NMHC FIELD OFFICE ON ROTA | NMHC FIELD OFFICE ON TINIAN |
|---|---|--|
| Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Micro Beach Road, Garapan P.O. Box 500514 Saipan, MP 96950 Tel.: (670) 234-6866/9447 Fax: (670) 234-9021 E-mail: housingdiv@nmhc.gov.mp | Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Rota Field Office, Songsong Village P.O. Box 527 Rota, MP 96951 Tel.: (670) 532-9410 Fax: (670) 532-9441 E-mail: rop@nmhc.gov.mp | Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Tinian Field Office, San Jose Village P.O. Box 520412 Tinian, MP 96952 Tel.: (670) 433-9213 Fax: (670) 433-3690 E-mail: tiq@nmhc.gov.mp |

Interested persons wishing to express their views on the draft amendments may do so either by attending the public hearing or by submitting comments to NMHC by 4:30 p.m. on July 24, 2017.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangement, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-17 (AIP PENDING), will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, Project No. CPA-SA-001-17", and submitted no later than **2:00 P.M., FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, Friday, June 9, 2017**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions regarding this procurement should be submitted in writing to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor, Arrival Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in GP 90 of the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO**
Executive Director

Date: May 25, 2017

World

Islamic State claims stunning attack in heart of Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—The Islamic State group claimed responsibility Wednesday for a pair of stunning attacks on Iran’s parliament and the tomb of its revolutionary leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, which killed at least 12 people and wounded more than 40.

Tehran Police Chief Gen. Hossein Sajedinia announced late Wednesday

night that five suspects had been detained for interrogation, according to a report in the semi-official ISNA news agency. Sajedinia did not offer any further details.

Reza Seifollahi, an official in the country’s Supreme National Security Council, was quoted by the independent Shargh daily as saying that the perpetrators of the attacks were Iranian nationals.

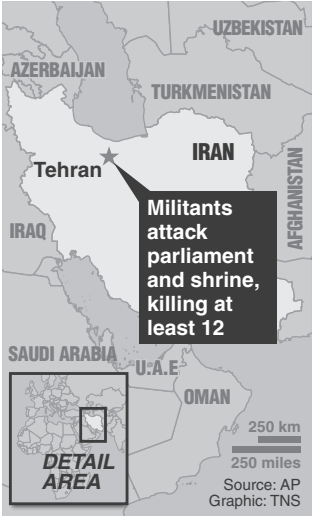
He did not elaborate.

The bloodshed shocked the country and came as emboldened Sunni Arab states—backed by U.S. President Donald Trump—are hardening their stance against Shiite-ruled Iran.

The White House released a statement from Trump condemning the terrorist attacks in Tehran and offering condolences, but also implying that Iran is itself a sponsor of terrorism.

“We grieve and pray for the innocent victims of the terrorist attacks in Iran, and for the Iranian people, who are going through such challenging times,” the statement said. “We underscore that states that sponsor terrorism risk falling victim to the evil they promote.”

In recent years, Tehran has



Arabia “constantly supports” terrorists including the Islamic State group, adding that the IS claim of responsibility “reveals (Saudi Arabia’s) hand in this barbaric action.”

The “spilled blood of the innocent will not remain unavenged,” the Revolutionary Guard statement said.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the country’s supreme leader, used the attacks to defend Tehran’s involvement in wars abroad. He told a group of students that if “Iran had not resisted,” it would have faced even more troubles.

“The Iranian nation will go forward,” he added.

The violence began in mid-morning when assailants with Kalashnikov rifles and explosives stormed the parliament complex where a legislative session had been in progress. The siege lasted for hours, and one of the attackers blew himself up inside, according to Iran’s state TV.

Images circulating in Iranian media showed gunmen held rifles near the windows of the complex. One showed a toddler being handed through a first-floor window to safety outside as an armed man looks on.

been heavily involved in conflicts in Syria and Iraq against the Islamic State, but had remained untouched by IS violence around the world. Iran has also battled Saudi-backed Sunni groups in both countries.

Iran’s powerful Revolutionary Guard indirectly blamed Saudi Arabia for the attacks. A statement issued Wednesday evening stopped short of alleging direct Saudi involvement but called it “meaningful” that the attacks followed Trump’s visit to Saudi Arabia, where he strongly asserted Washington’s support for Riyadh.

The statement said Saudi

London attacker’s mom blames internet for radicalizing son

LONDON (AP)—The youngest of the London Bridge attackers pleaded with his mother to settle with him in Syria but instead moved to Britain where his extremist views hardened and he fell into the company of a blood-thirsty gang that launched the latest attack on British streets, his mother said Wednesday.

Valeria Khadija Collina last spoke with her 22-year-old son, Youssef Zaghba, by telephone just two days before he and two other men plowed a van into a crowd near London Bridge and went on a stabbing rampage. Eight people were killed and dozens wounded. All three of the assailants were shot dead.

Zaghba, an Italian national of Moroccan descent, initially told his mother that he wanted to go to Syria to start a family in a religious Islamic climate—not to fight. But he changed, she said, when he went to Britain about a year ago and was seduced by radical views propagated on the internet.

“Last year ... when I went to England, he was ... more rigid,” Collina, an Italian convert to Islam, told reporters in a series of interviews at her


home in Bologna, Italy. “From his face, from his look, I could see there was a radicalization, as you say. And this happened in England, absolutely.”

The other two attackers were identified as Khurum Butt, a 27-year-old whose extremist views had been reported to police, and 30-year-old Rachid Redouane, also known as Rachid Elkhedar, a pastry chef who claimed to have dual Moroccan-Libyan citizenship.

It was not immediately clear how the three knew each other, but Collina said one of her son’s friends recognized one of the other attackers, though it wasn’t clear which one that was.

Butt, who was born in Pakistan and moved to Britain as a child, had worked in 2015 in the office at Auriga Holdings Ltd, which manages some Kentucky Fried Chicken franchises in Britain. Company officials said they had no evidence that either of the other attackers worked at any of the franchises.

Both Butt and Zaghba were known to British law enforcement, raising questions about whether anything could have been done to prevent the assault.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
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NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room located on the second floor of the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan on Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order 3. Adoption of Agenda
2. Roll Call 4. Adoption of Minutes (May 30, 2017)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IV. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS
1. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres’ Flight Moratorium/ CPA Board Resolution

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/
JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors

June 8, 2017



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO: CPA-RFP-010-17
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 09, 2017 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT INTERIOR PLANTS RENTAL, SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA), 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, MP 96950, DURING WORKING WORKS BEGINNING MAY, 19, 2017.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE IN WRITING AND ADDRESS TO THE PROCUREMENT OFFICER, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY EITHER BY FACSIMILE AT 234-5962 OR EMAIL: atudela@cpa.gov.mp NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M., JUNE 02, 2017.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CPA. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CPA.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PAROLE
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govhop@pticom.com



TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the “Open Government Act of 1992” hereby give Official Notice that a Parole Hearing is scheduled for **June 15, 2017 (Thursday), beginning at 9:00 a.m., and will continue, if need be, on June 16, 2017 (Friday), beginning at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Honorable Vicente T. Seman Building, Department of Corrections Conference Room, located at Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. The Agenda is as follows:

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
a. March 30, 2017

| III. Parole Hearing | BOP No.: | Criminal Case No.: |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Jesse James B. Camacho | 17-007 | 98-0175/04-0200 |
| 2. Shawn C. Appleby | 17-008 | 96-319/99-479D/04-0200 |
| 3. Jose B. Manglona Jr. | 17-009 | 15-0073E/06-0151 |

IV. Revocation Hearing
1. Robert Jake Palacios 14-006 13-0011A
2. Alvaro J. Cabrera 17-001 15-0030/13-0051

V. Miscellaneous
1. Parole Hearing Eligibility List
2. Schedule of Next Parole Hearing
3. Schedule of Next Board Meeting


VI. Adjournment

If deemed necessary, members of the Board of Parole may elect to vote to meet in Executive Session to discuss any of the items listed above.


If you have any question or need additional information, please contact the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 664-3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho
BOP Chairman

Date: 05/30/2017



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PAROLE
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
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E-mail: govhop@pticom.com



TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

MESSAGE: The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Victor B. Hocog, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the “Open Government Act of 1992” hereby give Official Notice that an **Executive Board Meeting** is scheduled for **June 16, 2017 Friday, at 10:00 a.m.**, at the **Honorable Vicente T. Seman Building, Department of Corrections Conference Room, Susupe Saipan MP 96950.** The following items are included in the agenda:

Board of Parole Executive Meeting Agenda

I. Preliminary Matters
A. Call to order
B. Roll Call
C. Presence of Quorum

II. Consent Items
A. Adoption of Agenda

III. Review and Board Policies and Procedures
A. New Regulations

IV. Miscellaneous
A. Schedule Next Board Meeting
B. Schedule of Next Parole Hearing

V. Adjournment

If deemed necessary, members of the Board of Parole may elect to vote to meet in Executive Session to discuss any of the items listed above.

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 664-3302

Focus

All eyes on
Venezuelan
military as
country teeters

AP
In this May 29, 2017 file photo, National Guards fall back momentarily while clashing with protesters during a march towards the Ombudsman's Office in protest of President Nicolas Maduro in Caracas, Venezuela.

By HANNAH DREIER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—It was 10 a.m. and the newly promoted lieutenant was already sweating under his plastic face shield and black flak jacket.

A few days before, the 28-year-old who goes by the name of Catire had watched a national guardsman get his arm broken at a protest. A week earlier, a friend collapsed several paces from him on the riot line, shot through the groin. Catire pulled up his visor and chain-smoked by his motorcycle, hoping the day would pass quickly.

Several miles away on the other side of the city, tens of thousands of Venezuelans in white shirts and homemade gas masks gathered to march toward Catire and his unit, part of a bloody protest movement that has seen dozens of deaths in more than two months of turmoil.

Catire's family suffers along with protesters who skip meals while watching their money become worthless. The lieutenant is unsure whether to blame the government or the opposition for the crisis. What he and other soldiers decide in the coming months could decide the country's fate.

President Nicolas Maduro has greatly expanded the military's authority and is leaning on the armed forces as his own grip on power weakens. The military has helped hold up the socialist administration for more than a decade, but never before was it the government's

main crutch. And despite the outward loyalty of top officers, cracks are beginning to appear.

In April, three lieutenants publicly rejected Maduro as commander in chief and sought asylum in Colombia. Another lieutenant in a restive western state cut up his official military ID card as supporters cheered. "Soldiers must not turn their arms on the people," he said. Days later, he was in military prison.

"The country is unhappy with the situation right now, and the armed forces are no exception. The military has traditionally been on the right side of history here. If they turn, it's all over for Maduro," said Cliver Alcala, a retired general who participated in an unsuccessful 1992 coup led by a then-unknown junior officer named Hugo Chavez.

These days, Alcala is a vocal opponent of the socialist government installed by Chavez after he won election to the presidency in 1998. Despite counterintelligence and close surveillance in the barracks, Maduro is unlikely to know an uprising is brewing until it's already upon him, Alcala said.

Any actual coup would cause an international crisis across a hemisphere profoundly scarred by the bloody military takeovers that marked much of the past century. But most opposition figures are hoping for much more passive support: for soldiers to hold back from attacks on protesters.

More than a dozen military officers were arrested during

the first two weeks of the protests and thrown into a military prison on suspicion of rebellion, according to military documents provided to The Associated Press by a third party.

The government has pampered the armed forces as much as an economy in shambles will allow. Before Catire put on his green fatigues, knee-high boots and black body armor before the protest, he sat down to a breakfast of two corn cakes, beans, eggs and coffee with milk—more than many Venezuelans eat in a day.

He gets bonuses in dollars, and his status has allowed his relatives to cut the line for government-subsidized apartments, household appliances and cars. But those perks have not been enough to insulate military families from shortages and crime. In Caracas, Catire, whose name is local slang for blond, feels increasingly hemmed in. Like most other soldiers, he has been confined to barracks since the protests started at the end of March.

Opposition leaders have used social media to broadcast appeals to young soldiers killing time in the barracks. In one recent video, lawmaker Jose Manuel Olivares emphasized the potential consequences for soldiers who fire on protesters.

"Captains and lieutenants, we are the same age, we have the same dreams and expectations from life. But you are the ones carrying out orders to repress on the street while your bosses try to figure out how to preserve your special privileges. You're the ones



AP
In this May 24, 2017 file photo, a Bolivarian National Guard briefly tries to remove the flag around the neck of a protester before letting him go, after security forces blocked an opposition march from reaching the National Electoral Council headquarters in Caracas, Venezuela.

who risking prosecution," Olivares said.

Like many leading politicians, the 31-year-old Olivares has been photographed multiple times stumbling away from blooms of tear gas at protests with blood streaming down his face.

The opposition has said it will hold officials to account for human rights violation and the message seems to be getting through. In 2014, the U.S. sanctioned officers involved in a far tamer crackdown on protesters. On a secret recording The Associated Press obtained last month, high-level military officers are heard debating the use of snipers against protesters, with some expressing concerns about possible prosecution should the opposition gain power. The recording's authenticity could not be verified.

Catire has taken extra precautions since the day he saw a friend collapse next to him as his unit shot tear gas at protesters near an upscale eastern Caracas plaza. A bullet passed through his friend's upper thigh and punctured his groin, causing rapid blood loss. A teenage protester was killed at the same plaza that afternoon, his chest crushed by a tear gas canister.

While the soldiers inflict more injuries than they receive, Catire is wary of protesters throwing gasoline bombs and rocks. Shots also often come from pro-government militias who ride into the scrum on motorcycles. At least two National Guard soldiers and two policemen have been killed in the protests.

Along with asking soldiers to break up demonstrations, Maduro relies on military tribunals to jail protesters and gives the armed forces a prominent role in his effort to rewrite the constitution. He has invited uniformed military members to appear at televised rallies since the protest movement started, and has promoted waves of officers to general.

Although he lacks the military background of Chavez, his late mentor, Maduro has been at pains to point out he shares soldiers' working-class background and emphasize that he and many soldiers have browner skin while opposition leaders and elite Venezuelans in general look more European. In May, he appeared before a group of grim-faced young soldiers and told them opposition protesters had burned a bystander to death "just because he had dark skin

like you and me." Witnesses say the bystander was caught stealing.

Catire, who did not give his full name because he was violating protocol by speaking to a reporter, said he feels the country is descending into civil war. He grew up poor near the Colombian border, and joined the military because he liked the idea of bringing order to a chaotic country. He disapproves of the opposition calling on the armed forces to pick a side and believes the military must stay neutral and wait for elections.

By noon on the day of the protest, he and other soldiers were turning back the crowd with tear gas and water cannons.

Toward the day's end, a group of women approached Catire's post and shouted, "Lay down your arms and join us!" Some stripped naked and threw their clothes over the 12-foot barricade the soldiers had set up. But the young men stayed immobile and silent. "Take down this wall," the women insisted.

After a few more hours, both sides went home to cool down and prepare to repeat the whole process the next morning.

Science & Technology

Autonomous cars (no human backup) may hit the road next year

DETROIT (AP)—Autonomous vehicles with no human backup will be put to the test on publicly traveled roads as early as next year in what may be the first attempt at unassisted autonomous piloting.

Automotive electronics and parts maker Delphi and French transport company Transdev plan to use autonomous taxis and a shuttle van to carry passengers on roadways in France.

The companies on Wednesday said they plan to combine Delphi's self-driving technology with Transdev's knowledge of mobility operations. Transdev operates trains, buses, ferries and other transportation services in 19 countries, including the U.S.

Two on-demand Renault Zoe autonomous taxis will be deployed in Rouen, Normandy, and a shuttle van will run between a rail station and campus in the university district of Paris-Saclay. Both will start with humans on board later this year, with the intent of going fully autonomous sometime in 2018. From the start, the shuttle van won't



AP
In this March 22, 2006, file photo, Delphi's World Headquarters is shown in Troy, Mich. Automotive electronics and parts maker Delphi and French transport company Transdev have plans to use autonomous taxis and a shuttle van to carry passengers on roadways in France without a human behind the wheel as early as 2018.

driver," he said.

Bryant Walker Smith, a law professor at the University of South Carolina who tracks self-driving cars, said the Delphi-Transdev project would be among the first to carry passengers on roads without human backup drivers. Similar projects are ramping up in California and the Netherlands, he said.

The partnership comes less than a month after U.K.-based Delphi joined with BMW, Intel and Mobileye to develop autonomous vehicles. Delphi, which has U.S. operations just outside of Detroit, makes the computing platform that brings together information from the car's sensors, cameras and computers.

have a steering wheel or pedals, and humans will be inside solely to communicate with passengers, said Leriche, chief performance officer at Transdev Group.

But humans at a central dispatch center would still be able to take control of the vehicles, said Glen De Vos, Delphi Corp.'s chief tech-

nology officer. "We're confident that in the event they would need to intervene, they can," he said.

The companies also plan a similar test in North America and are scouting locations, De Vos said.

He believes they'll go through several iterations of self-driving software and

systems before the French vehicles are fully operational sometime in 2019.

Transdev plans to gradually spread the technology throughout Paris and other cities that it serves, so the autonomous vehicles will be on roads along with human drivers.

It may take a while for

people to trust the vehicles enough to use them, but Leriche said acceptance may not be that hard to get. Transdev has surveyed users in autonomous shuttle tests about the service and quality, and more than 90 percent were excited about the service. "They were not afraid of the fact that there was no

TECH Q&A: What to do when the internet keeps cutting out

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: My Dell Inspiron 5520 laptop with Windows 10 has been losing its internet connection via Wi-Fi. I wondered if it was a Wi-Fi problem; the laptop is 50 to 60 feet from the wireless router, and is separated from it by several walls. But recently my HP desktop PC has also lost its internet signal, and it's in the same room with the wireless router.

AT&T, my internet provider, hasn't been able to solve the problem. But AT&T previously told me that I'm about 3,000 feet from their "source," about as far as the internet signal goes. Could that be a factor? In addition, the outages typically happen between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Could they be caused by more people using the AT&T internet service at that time of day? What can I do?—Randy Hampton, Destrehan, La.

A: The problem is most likely caused by your AT&T internet service. But your PCs or Wi-Fi network might be involved.

Here's why your AT&T service is probably to blame:

■ You are about 3,000 feet from AT&T's "network node," where customer telephone lines in your neighborhood connect to AT&T's fiber optic network. In most cases, that's the maximum distance for getting a reliable internet signal. If your internet signal is weak, it could fail.

■ The network node could be overloaded in the early evening when your outages have occurred. If you and your neighbors simultaneously use AT&T's internet service (or AT&T's fiber-based TV service if it's offered in your area), that might cut off a weak internet connection.

Here's why the problem might be in your home:

■ The laptop that frequently loses its internet connection probably has the weakest Wi-Fi connection because of the distance and the number of walls between it and the wireless router. In addition, the laptop wasn't designed to run Windows 10 (see tinyurl.com/yewuhdg7). While the laptop may have worked well until now, new Windows 10 updates might have caused problems.

■ TVs in your household might be using too much of your internet capacity for streaming video.

What can you do? If the

issue is AT&T, you can get a different internet provider, or use the internet at a different time of day. To see if the problem is in your home, move the laptop closer to the router and avoid TV streaming while using PCs. Consider buying a new Windows 10 PC.

Q: I used to be able to listen to a preview of an MP3 song before buying it on Amazon.com. But now the sampling option isn't available for most songs. I have the same problem when using the Internet Explorer or Google Chrome browser. What's wrong?—Ernesto Barba, Colorado Springs, Colo.

A: This problem has reappeared several times in the past four years, perhaps as a result of Amazon and browser software changes. There seems to be no single fix, but try changing the settings in the Chrome browser.

To do that, go to the web address line and type "chrome://flags/#prefer-html-over-flash." On the resulting page, disable "prefer HTML over Flash" (both are formats that deliver music to your browser), and enable "Run all Flash content when Flash setting is set to 'allow.'" Then restart the PC.

Science Matters

Big new scope will see through shaky atmosphere

Construction has begun on the world's largest optical telescope, which will use lasers to cancel out the blurring effect of Earth's atmosphere.

European Extremely Large Telescope

Main mirror's diameter: 129 ft. (39.3 m)
To begin operation: 2024

Artist's illustration

Lasers project artificial "guide stars" high into atmosphere

Cerro Armazones, Chile, near Paranal Observatory

Eyes as good as a space telescope's

Orbiting telescopes like Hubble have the benefit of circling above the atmosphere

However, they cannot collect nearly as much light as giant Earth-based telescopes

They also cannot carry heavy, super-precise instruments

Adaptive optics solve the problem of distortions caused by turbulence in the atmosphere

1 Eight lasers mounted on the telescope create artificial stars in the upper atmosphere

2 Detectors in the telescope watch those spots of light in the sky as the shimmering air moves them about

3 More than 6,000 small motors distort an 8.5-foot (2.6 m) correcting mirror in the telescope 1,000 times a second to compensate for the atmosphere's wavering

Source: European Southern Observatory, NASA
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

Off The Wall

Feathered frenzy: Peacock breaks bottles inside liquor store

ARCADIA, Calif. (AP)—A female peacock has ruffled more than just feathers at a Los Angeles-area liquor store.

Without a peep, the peahen strutted into the open door of the Royal Oaks Liquor Store in Arcadia on Monday. Store manager and college senior Rani Ghanem said he didn't even know it was there until a customer walked in and asked him about "el pollo," Spanish for "the chicken."

Ghanem, a 21-year-old San Bernardino resident whose family owns the store, said he then tried to guide the sharp-clawed bird outside but that she spooked, at one point flying directly toward him and then up onto a top shelf of the

store. And that spooked Ghanem.

An animal-control officer responded after Ghanem called 911, approaching the peahen with gloves and a fishing net. That's when the hilarity ensued, Ghanem said.

"He was trying to get it with the fishing net, and (the bird) jumped on the first wine bottle. When that happened, I was like, 'Aw, this is about to be a big mess,'" Ghanem said. "He tried to get it again with the net ... It just went straight diving into all the bottles. The more he kept on trying to use the net, the more it kept on flapping its wings and knocking everything over."

At one point, cellphone vid-

^{AP}
In this Monday, June 5, 2017 image made from cellphone video provided by Rani Ghanem, bottles tumble as an animal control officer attempts to net a female peacock that wound up inside the Royal Oaks Liquor Store in Arcadia, Calif.

eo taken by Ghanem shows the officer catching a wine bottle in the net as the bird crashes through a shelf and a dozen bottles shatter to the ground.

Unable to watch more destruction, Ghanem puts on a sweat shirt to protect himself from the bird's claws and helps the officer ensnare it.

He said they took the bird outside and that it was unharmed.



In all, Ghanem said the peahen was in the store for 90 minutes and broke \$500 worth of the family store's best bottles, including champagne.

"Yeah, he's got expensive taste," Ghanem joked in the store Tuesday. "I'm like, 'You

break, you buy, dude.' But clearly he didn't. He got away with it."

Peacocks are common to Arcadia, about 13 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains. They were intro-

duced after the city's founder imported them from India in the early 1900s. Though some residents view the colorful birds as a nuisance, they are a protected animal in the area and harming them can carry fines and jail time.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Road paved with clamshells emits stench, covered in maggots

TIVERTON, R.I. (AP)—Residents of a small Rhode Island community say their neighborhood has been beset by a terrible stench after one of their neighbors paved a road with unwashed clamshells. WJAR-TV reports a property owner in Tiverton put down the shells on an access road last week. But the uncleaned shells had meat still attached, leading to a putrid smell as it decomposes. Video shows maggots crawling all over the road. Neighbors put up signs including: "Honk if it stinks." Blair Moore, whose family owns the house next door, says the smell is making her ill. The station says the property owner hung up when asked for comment. The building inspector has issued a cease and desist order. Police and the state Department of Environmental Management are investigating.

Truck-toll system costs Rhode Island more than 1st reported

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A proposed truck-toll project in Rhode Island will cost more than first reported because officials didn't include construction costs. The Providence Journal reports the state Department of Transportation announced Wednesday it has finalized a \$68.9 million contract with Austrian company Kapsch Traffic Com IVHS Inc., to build, operate and maintain the state's planned truck toll network. The newspaper reports the state originally put the toll

network at \$25 million over the span of 10 years. Officials say that figure includes maintenance costs, but excludes design and construction costs. Republican House Minority Leader Patricia Morgan says the financial analysis the state presented was misleading because it didn't include construction costs.

Mom charged after boy's teeth pulled in Walmart restroom

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Authorities say a Utah woman pulled two of her son's teeth in a Walmart restroom. Prosecutors said Monday that the 47-year-old woman bought hand sanitizer and needle-nose pliers from the store, then took them into the restroom and pulled two of her 7-year-old son's teeth. Police in American Fork, Utah, say the boy's older brother heard the child screaming and got him out of the restroom on April 2. Charging documents say the boy told his brother that one of the teeth was loose, but the other was only slightly loose. Prosecutors say the woman didn't use any kind of anesthetic. The woman was charged with felony child abuse. No attorney was immediately listed for her in court records. The Associated Press is not naming her to avoid identifying the child.

Mom: 'It looked like they pulled a toddler out of my belly'

ORANGE PARK, Fla. (AP)—A Florida woman says she knew her stomach was undeniably huge as she approached the end of her pregnancy. But Christine Corbitt

didn't know how big until Carleigh Brooke Corbitt arrived via C-section on May 15, weighing in at 13 pounds, 5 ounces (6 kilograms). Corbitt tells Action News Jax (<http://bit.ly/2sxlQP3>) that she heard laughter as the doctor was delivering the baby in Orange Park, adding it "looked like they pulled a toddler out of my belly." Husband Larry Corbitt says the diapers they had on hand don't fit baby Carleigh. He says she's already in size 3 diapers. He says the baby's due date wasn't until May 20 or 21, so she would have been even bigger had she not arrived early. The parents say their baby girl is "gorgeous."

Massachusetts medical pot dispensary selling marijuana pizza

QUINCY, Mass. (AP)—A Massachusetts medical marijuana dispensary has created a culinary delight for patients who don't want to smoke their pot or eat it in the form of sweets. Quincy-based Ermont Inc. has been selling cannabis-infused pizza for about three weeks to rave reviews. Director of Operations Seth Yaffe says the company has a whole range of marijuana edibles, but he wanted to offer meals that patients could eat without a lot of sugar. The 6-inch cheese pizzas sell for \$38 apiece. The tomato sauce contains 125 milligrams of THC, the psychoactive compound in marijuana. The company has sold about 200 already. Yaffe says if patients want toppings, they can add their own. Only people with state-issued medical marijuana ID cards are eligible to buy the pies.

The family of

† MR. EDWARD CAMACHO

ARRIOLA

*would like to express our heartfelt appreciation
to our relatives and friends
for all their prayers, words of comfort,
and support throughout our time of sorrow.
Although we mourn the passing of our beloved †Ed,
we also rejoice to the end of his sufferings
and the beginning of his new life in paradise.*

*Let us continue to pray for each other for love, hope, and peace.
From our hearts, thank you, un dankulo na si yu'us ma'ase
yan ghilisow, for all your love, prayers, and kindness.*

Frances Arriola (Piliti) and Children

Life & Style

Keith Urban wins big at CMT Awards, Underwood makes history

By MESFIN FEKADU
AP MUSIC WRITER

After walking away empty-handed at the Grammy Awards and the Academy of Country Music Awards earlier this year, Keith Urban found redemption at the 2017 CMT Music Awards, picking up four honors including video of the year for "Blue Ain't Your Color."

The country star also won male video, collaborative video and social superstar of the year at the Music City Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

"I love making music, I love making videos ... who knows how long you get to do it," said Urban, who also thanked his fans and his actress-wife Nicole Kidman, who sat in the audience.

"I'm just trying to make a connection," he said.

Urban also performed, singing his disco-flavored hit "The Fighter" with Carrie Underwood, who continued to dominate as the most awarded act in the history of the CMT Awards with 17 wins.

She won female video of the year for "Church Bells" and collaborative video for "The Fighter."

"Thank you God for so many incredible blessings that we have in our lives ... we are so grateful and we are so blessed," said Underwood, who is married to Mike Fisher of the Nashville Predators, who are competing in the Stanley Cup Finals against the Pittsburgh Penguins (Game 5 is Thursday).

"Go Preds," she said.

Others paired up for collaborative performances throughout the night. Jason Aldean,

Darius Rucker, Charles Kelley of Lady Antebellum and Derek Trucks kicked off the show with a rocking tribute to south-

ern rocker Gregg Allman, who died last month at age 69. Peter Frampton sang outdoors with Brothers Osborne; The

Chainsmokers and duo video of the year winners Florida Georgia Line performed the energetic "Last Day Alive," which was pre-taped Tuesday; and Earth, Wind & Fire partnered with Lady Antebellum to close the awards show.

Luke Bryan and Jason DeRulo, who won CMT performance of the year for "Want to Want Me" from their "CMT Crossroads" special, performed the pop song onstage as well as Bryan's slow groove, "Strip It Down."

The CMT Awards didn't only include singers from other genres; Hollywood stars also attended, including Ashton Kutcher.

Jada Pinkett Smith and Katherine Heigl sported pink sunglasses while Miranda Lambert sang "Pink Sun-

glasses" onstage. Blake Shelton, Thomas Rhett and Kelsea Ballerini also performed during the show. Little Big Town, who also sang, won group video of the year for "Better Man," their No. 1 hit that was written by Taylor Swift.

Band member Karen Fairchild thanked the group's fans "for making this such a big hit."

Lauren Alaina, who placed second on "American Idol" in 2011, won breakthrough video of the year for her No. 1 hit, "Road Less Traveled."

"Reba McEntire just gave me an award so that's pretty crazy," said the shocked 22-year-old singer. After thanking people she gave Jesus a shout-out.

"I should have said that first. Sorry God," she said.



Carrie Underwood accepts the award for female video of the year for "Church Bells" at the CMT Music Awards at Music City Center on Wednesday, June 7, 2017, in Nashville, Tenn. AP

Film spotlights Holocaust survivor's search for US soldier

BOSTON (AP)—It was a simple act of kindness by a complete stranger, but it left a lasting impression on a young Polish boy escaping the horrors of Nazi death camps.

Steve Ross searched for decades for the U.S. soldier that had comforted and fed him as Dachau concentration camp was being liberated by Allied forces in 1945. As Ross carved out a new life in America, he retold the story countless times, carrying with him the American flag handkerchief the soldier left him.

"My father was absolutely transformed by that small act," said Michael Ross, a former Boston City Council president and onetime mayoral candidate. "It helped him regain his faith in humanity. It shows that these things we do in life have profound consequences. That how we treat each other matters."

Ross' search for the benevolent soldier and his life after the war is recounted in a new documentary screened in the Boston suburb of West Newton on Wednesday evening.

"Etched in Glass: The Legacy of Steve Ross" focuses on the five years Ross spent in concentration camps to his life as a war orphan in America, his career helping at-risk youths in Boston and his successful efforts to erect the striking glass New England Holocaust Memorial in downtown Boston.

Ross, now 90 and his speech limited by a stroke, attended Wednesday's screening with his family, the filmmakers and

members of the soldier's family.

"It's not your typical Holocaust film," said Roger Lyons, the director of the nearly hour-long film. "Steve is a unique person. He took his second life and he really ran with it."

After serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, Ross became a social worker helping youths in some of Boston's toughest housing projects.

In his later years, he would talk to high school students about his Holocaust experience and address swearing ceremonies for new U.S. citizens. Dressed in garb similar to what prisoners wore in the death camps, he would faithfully recount the story of the kind soldier and carefully unfurl the American flag handkerchief.

"Most survivors don't want to talk about their experience," Lyons said. "Steve was the opposite. He was an open faucet."

As the documentary details, Ross' search for the soldier was featured on the popular television show "Unsolved Mysteries" in 1989. But it wasn't until decades later that the family of Lt. Steve Sattler, who died in 1986, connected the dots.

The film captures the emotional moment when the two families met at a Veterans Day ceremony at the Massachusetts State House in 2012.

Sattler's granddaughter, Brenda Sattler, who played a key role in making the connection, says the bond forged between the two families has been surreal.

Jury may soon hear from Cosby, even if he doesn't take stand

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP)—A jury that heard seven hours of testimony from a woman who says Bill Cosby drugged and assaulted her may soon hear from Cosby himself—even if he doesn't take the stand.

Prosecutors are expected to show jurors an earlier deposition in which Cosby said that he routinely gave women pills and alcohol before sexual encounters and gave at least one of them quaaludes, a now-banned sedative.

The suburban Philadelphia

jury on Wednesday heard trial accuser Andrea Constand offer her most direct denial yet that any of their earlier meetings were romantic.

"It wasn't a romantic time, no," Constand, 44, of Toronto, said of an earlier fireside dinner with Cosby, a trustee at Temple University, where she directed the women's basketball team.

The jury also heard Cosby's voice on a 2006 telephone call, offering Constand money for graduate school after her mother called to confront

him about the encounter at his home a year earlier.

"She could go to school," he said. "If she wanted to do that, then I would be willing to ... pay for the schooling."

Cosby, now 79, acknowledges in the deposition from Constand's related lawsuit that he gave her three blue pills before fondling her breast and penetrating her with his fingers. The only question for the jury is how to interpret the encounter. Prosecutors say she was too impaired to give consent.

The defense lawyer sought to show that Constand changed her mind about the date of the alleged assault. But Constand perhaps blunted the attack by saying she got confused and initially thought the episode happened in March 2004.

"I was mistaken," she said, unflustered.

Gianna Constand, who followed her daughter to the stand, sounded alarmed at the thought Andrea had been drugged, and angry that they still don't know what type of pills Cosby gave her.

Celebrity chef Bobby Flay buys interest in Belmont horse

NEW YORK (AP)—Celebrity chef Bobby Flay hopes he's cooked up another winner in the Belmont Stakes.

Flay purchased 25 percent interest in J Boys Echo on Wednesday before the draw that assigned post positions for

Saturday's \$1.5 million race. The other 75 percent belongs to Albaugh Family Stable.

Last year, Flay bought an interest in Creator just before the colt won the Belmont by a nose.

J Boys Echo finished 15th

in the Kentucky Derby under jockey Luis Saez. The chestnut colt found trouble leaving the starting gate and got bounced around in the pack of 20 horses. He skipped the Preakness.

He has two wins in seven

career starts and earnings of \$349,600. He was purchased for \$485,000.

J Boys Echo is trained by Dale Romans and will be ridden by Robby Albarado, who couldn't ride in the Derby because of injury.

Madeleine Albright's next book warns of fascism's dangers

NEW YORK (AP)—Madeleine Albright, the former secretary of state, is worried about democracy.

Albright's next book, "Fascism," is a warning that democratic governments are "fragile" and the United States under

President Donald Trump is enduring its own crisis.

"The author examines the economic, religious, racial, and cultural factors that are today dividing populations and fostering bigotry across the globe, while also looking

at how demagogues from Mussolini to Duterte have attracted followers by exploiting fear, nurturing anger, and promising easy answers to complex problems," according to HarperCollins.

"Fascism" is part of a two-book deal with HarperCollins and will come out April 2018, the publisher told The Associated Press on Wednesday. Her second book, not yet titled, will be a memoir about her years



Albright

since leaving the State Department in 2001. Albright, who served under President Bill Clinton, has written the memoirs "Prague Winter" and "Madam Secretary."

At least two other books by former secretaries of state are scheduled. Hillary Clinton's book of essays will be out this fall. John Kerry, who succeeded Clinton in the Obama

administration, is working on a memoir.

Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who served under President George W. Bush, recently published "Democracy." Rice's book examines self-government worldwide and urges the U.S. to be a leader in advocating for freedom and human rights.

Florida Georgia Line, Jason Derulo add their voices to ESPN

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Country duo Florida Georgia Line and R&B artist Jason Derulo have been tapped to help country singer Hank Williams Jr.'s return to "Monday Night Football."

A spokesperson for the ESPN program said Wednesday the singers will all perform "All My Rowdy Friends Are Coming Over Monday Night," a remix of Williams' single "All My Rowdy Friends Are Coming Over Tonight."

Florida Georgia Line and Derulo will also join Williams in the opening video broadcast, which features weekly team-specific lyrics and visuals based on the 2017 NFL season.

ESPN on Monday announced Williams' return. It dropped him in 2011 after he compared then-President Barack Obama golfing with then-House Speaker John Boehner to Adolf Hitler golfing with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Mixed reaction to Sony's clean edits of 'Ghostbusters,' more

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Imagine watching "Step Brothers" with the whole family. You might be able to now.

Sony Pictures on Tuesday unveiled their Clean Version initiative, which makes available the less violent, salacious and profane broadcast television and airplane edits of certain movies when you purchase the regular title on a streaming service.

Clean versions are available now for 24 films including "Step Brothers," "Ghostbusters" and "White House Down."

Third party services like ClearPlay and VidAngel have been in the business of cleaning up movies for years, although their unauthorized

edits have also been the target of lawsuits from studios.

Not everyone was a fan of the Sony announcement, including Seth Rogen who tweeted his dismay Tuesday. Rogen's raunchy "Sausage Party" is a Sony film. A clean edit is not available for that.

Richard Donner celebrated for 'Superman,' super kindness

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Richard Donner may have created the modern superhero movie with 1978's "Superman" and revitalized the buddy comedy with "Lethal Weapon," but his colleagues say his big-hearted kindness is what truly sets him apart.

Actor Corey Feldman said Donner paid for his rehab

years after they worked together on "The Goonies." Another "Goonies" star revealed Donner covered his college tuition. Other entertainers, including Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Rene Russo and Carol Kane, lauded the filmmaker's magnanimity Wednesday at a film academy tribute to the 87-year-old Donner.

Kane, who starred with Bill

Murray in 1988's "Scrooged," called Donner "a creative guidance counselor in the most nourishing way."

"You were charming and funny and witty and all these amazing (things), but the thing that killed me is you were kind," Russo told the director. "You were so kind, and that's what makes you the sexiest man in the world."



AP
In this Feb. 24, 2017 file photo, actor George Clooney, left, and Amal Clooney arrive at the 42nd Cesar Film Awards ceremony at Salle Pleyel in Paris.

George Clooney's father is full of love, 'clichés' for twins

LOS ANGELES (AP)—George Clooney's father says he is looking forward to meeting his new grandchildren in person but is waiting for the greenlight from his son and Amal Clooney before he packs his bags.

Nick Clooney told The Associated Press Wednesday that he has seen the twins, Ella and Alexander, who were born Tuesday morning in London.

He and his wife Nina are at their home in Kentucky and

got their first look their grandchildren via Skype.

The longtime newsman admitted that all he could muster were clichés to describe the newborns, who he says are wonderful, shocking and beautiful. After all he's speaking as a grandfather, not a journalist.

He said that they are thrilled and will be there "with bells on" to congratulate the new parents and hug their grandchildren—once they get permission.

Mistress stops believing man will leave his family for her

DEAR ABBY: I am a 24-year-old professional woman who has been having an affair with a married man for three years. We have great chemistry, a passionate sex life, endless laughs and give each other a lot of support. He's married and has children, and when he is with them I find myself incredibly jealous. I feel left out, and I no longer believe he will ever be with me, although he says he will.

Because of his legal status in the U.S., it could take a few years before he becomes a citizen and is able to divorce. Should we take a break and revisit our relationship in a few years, or should I stick by him until everything is sorted out?

JEALOUS CONFUSED LOVEBIRD

DEAR LOVEBIRD: I'm all for taking that break. The status quo is painful. As things stand, there are no guarantees your lover will ever leave his wife and children for you. If you take a break, you might meet someone who is eligible and actually willing (and able) to build a future with you. I say, go for it.

DEAR ABBY: My husband takes personal and business calls on his cellphone. When I'm with him, I ask who is calling before he picks up. He thinks this is "unusual" and becomes

upset when I do. I think it is a courtesy to let me know who he is talking to, since I am usually left sitting in the car next to him or at the table with an unfinished meal, playing a guessing game of "who is on the other end." Should I bite my tongue, or should he let me know?

WHO'S CALLING

DEAR WHO'S: Unless your husband is a doctor or a bail bondsman, he shouldn't be taking business calls when you're having a meal together. If the call is important, he can return it after you have finished eating. As to being curious about who's on the other end of the line, if it's a friend, your husband could do what I do—and that's mention the name of the person in his greeting or during the course of the conversation.

I don't think your curiosity is "unusual." Quite the opposite, in fact. But for heaven's sake, stop allowing your food to get cold while you wait for him to finish talking. Eat it while it's hot!

DEAR ABBY: This might seem like a trivial question, but it's one that has been bothering me for a long time. Does anyone else read the comics back to front, last to first? I simply can't en-

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

joy reading them the "normal" way. Am I a horrible person? Do I have OCD? Am I antisocial? Should I write to "Dear Abby"? Oh wait. That's what I'm doing. Help!

GARY IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR GARY: You are none of the above. Some people do the same thing with mystery novels because they can't stand the suspense.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Viny shelter
- 6 Pampering, for short
- 9 Pvt.'s superior
- 12 "All in the Family" spinoff
- 13 Tic-tac-toe win
- 14 Mauna —
- 15 Sleep problem
- 16 Beachgoers' applications
- 18 Van Gogh painting
- 20 Naked
- 21 Dye type
- 23 "Awe-some, dude!"
- 24 Mosaicist
- 25 Clothing store section
- 27 Comes in last
- 29 Dis-counted
- 31 Annoyed
- 35 Madagascar critter

DOWN

- 37 iPhone voice
- 38 Senate broadcaster
- 41 Pen tip
- 43 Muppet eagle
- 44 Reunion attendee
- 45 Capital of Rwanda
- 47 Multitudes
- 49 Hotel accommodations
- 52 Author Harper
- 53 Shoe width
- 54 Proprietor
- 55 Suitable

1 "I — Rock"

2 Knock

3 Toe woes

4 Baltic Sea feeder

5 Show again

6 Ohio city

7 Novelist Anita

8 Camp bed

9 Toaster's word

10 Category

11 Shocking weapon

17 Nile birds

19 "The Crucible" setting

21 I love (Lat.)

22 Buddhist sect

24 Golf peg

26 Deli meat

28 Parsley piece

30 Actor Cariou

32 Mirages

33 Historic time

34 Badly lit

36 Gender-neutral

38 Lily variety

39 Doze

40 Washington Sound

42 Tycoon

45 Leg joint

46 Actor Rob

48 Not 'neath

50 Ran into

51 Soon-to-be grads

Solution time: 28 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-9

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Natalie Portman, 36; Johnny Depp, 54; Aaron Sorkin, 55; Michael J. Fox, 56.

Happy Birthday: Engage in activities that you can do with others. Expanding your circle of friends or getting to know someone better will help you form closer relationships that will come in handy as the year progresses. Personal growth and physical changes that are subtle but effective will be the result of interacting with people from all walks of life. Your numbers are 3, 8, 17, 21, 25, 37, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Work hard to encourage solid relationships. Doing your part will help set the standard for a better future with the people you live and work with. Learn from past mistakes and you'll avoid someone taking advantage of you. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems over money matters are best dealt with quickly. Emotional deception can turn into a financial loss. Refuse to let anyone take over or interfere in your personal affairs. Someone from your past will cause problems if you reconnect. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take pride in what you do and how you get along with others. Being a team player as well as a leader will help you gain ground in personal and business affairs. Offer solutions and be willing to compromise. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take a second look at a situation and consider if you may be part of the problem. Self-deception can be cause for concern if it jeopardizes

your relationship with someone or harms your reputation. Work on personal improvements, not changing others. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Get in the game. Bring about personal changes that make you feel confident about the way you look. Social events are highlighted and will turn an OK time into a spectacular day. Live in the moment. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Size up whatever challenge you face at home or at work. Someone will use unconventional methods to trick you into taking on more than you should. Only agree to what's feasible and speak up if you feel like someone is being deceptive. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take care of relatives, friends or those who need assistance. Your consideration, suggestions and solutions will bring about changes that will leave you in a better position. Work as a team player and good things will happen. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A change in the way or place you work may come by surprise, but the end result looks very promising. Greater security and a chance to use your skills in new ways will contribute to the success and satisfaction you feel. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Assess your situation and make changes. Bringing up concerns or making suggestions for how to improve your relationship will bring about positive changes. Keep your eyes open for a chance to excel. ★★

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Get instructions straight before you get started. You will take things the wrong way if you let your emotions lead to assumptions instead of getting the facts. Stick close to home and concentrate on self-improvement, home and family. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let anyone meddle in your personal or professional affairs. Listen carefully and don't hesitate to correct someone who may misinterpret what you are saying or doing. Don't miss out on an opportunity due to someone's underhandedness. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Nothing will be as it appears. Take a closer look before you agree to something that is illusive or that comes from an unreliable source. Make creative changes at home that will benefit you and the ones you love. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are progressive, engaging and outgoing. You are articulate and persuasive.

Eugenia's websites — eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TAIKO DRUMS OF JAPAN Solution: 11 letters

S S F L A M E S H O R T D P E
T E O K I A D A W H A E R O K
R L R A T N C E Y C E H T A L
E D M N K H S T C R O E N Y
A N I A I I H T S O K D O A R
M A U S L M N K R I R I R R D
P H E T O L I G A U T A F I R
N L G A N N E D S C M T V I
I A N V G O I T U T O E H E A
K C I E R H W R S I A O N R V
S I H S C H T U S T O N Y T O
L T T U E S Z N R P E D D S K
L S O E N U E K I O O E M G L
U Y L O M T A N M B P O L O E
B M C I S U M C E S H E L L Z

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Yesterday's Answer: Waterfalls

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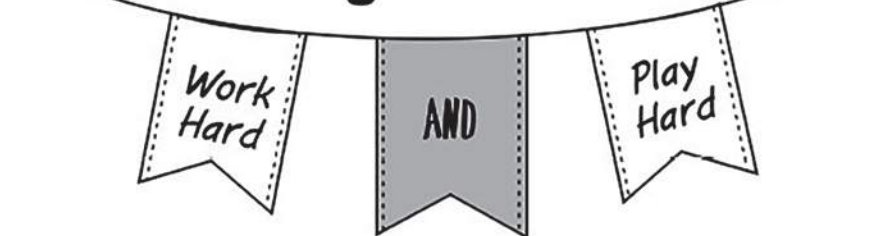
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Opening date: June 09, 2017

Closing date: June 30, 2017

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

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Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or at the CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at cpa.personnel@pticom.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
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INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-CCC-152

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 20, 2017 TIME: 9:00 A.M.
**“PURCHASE OF TWO (2) NETWORK SERVERS
FOR COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION”**

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/S/ JUAN M. SABLAN
CHAIRMAN, COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-BECQ/DCRM-155

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 20, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.
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/S/ FRANK M. RABAU LIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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MVA-ITB-17-2003**

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A Mandatory Pre-BID Conference will be held on **Monday, June 12, 2017 at 9:00 AM** in the main conference room at the MVA office in San Jose. A site walk will be conducted immediately after the pre-BID in order to further explain the project, and allow interested firms to become familiarized with the site. No BID will be accepted from any firm which fails to attend this mandatory pre-BID conference and site walk.

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com

/s/ Mariana Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion
Managing Director

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-BECQ/DCRM-156

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 20, 2017 TIME: 11:00 A.M.
**“BOAT CHARTER AND ASSESSMENT SUPPORT FOR SITE VISIT TO PAGAN,
CNMI FOR THE BECQ – DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT”**

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Durant's shot sends perfect Warriors over Cavs in Finals

CLEVELAND (AP)—Kevin Durant released his deep shot, the one he always makes in his dreams.

As the ball hung in the air, his plan to win a championship, Golden State's grip on the series, Cleveland's last-gasp attempt to defend its title, all of it was on the line.

Perfect.

Durant drained the shot of his professional life—a 3-pointer over LeBron James with 45.3 seconds left—and scored 31 points as the Warriors, pushed harder than they have been throughout their pristine postseason, moved within one win of a title and payback by rallying to beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 118-113 on Wednesday night to take a 3-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

The Warriors trailed by six with three minutes left before Durant, criticized for leaving Oklahoma City last summer to chase a championship, brought them back, scoring 14 in the fourth.

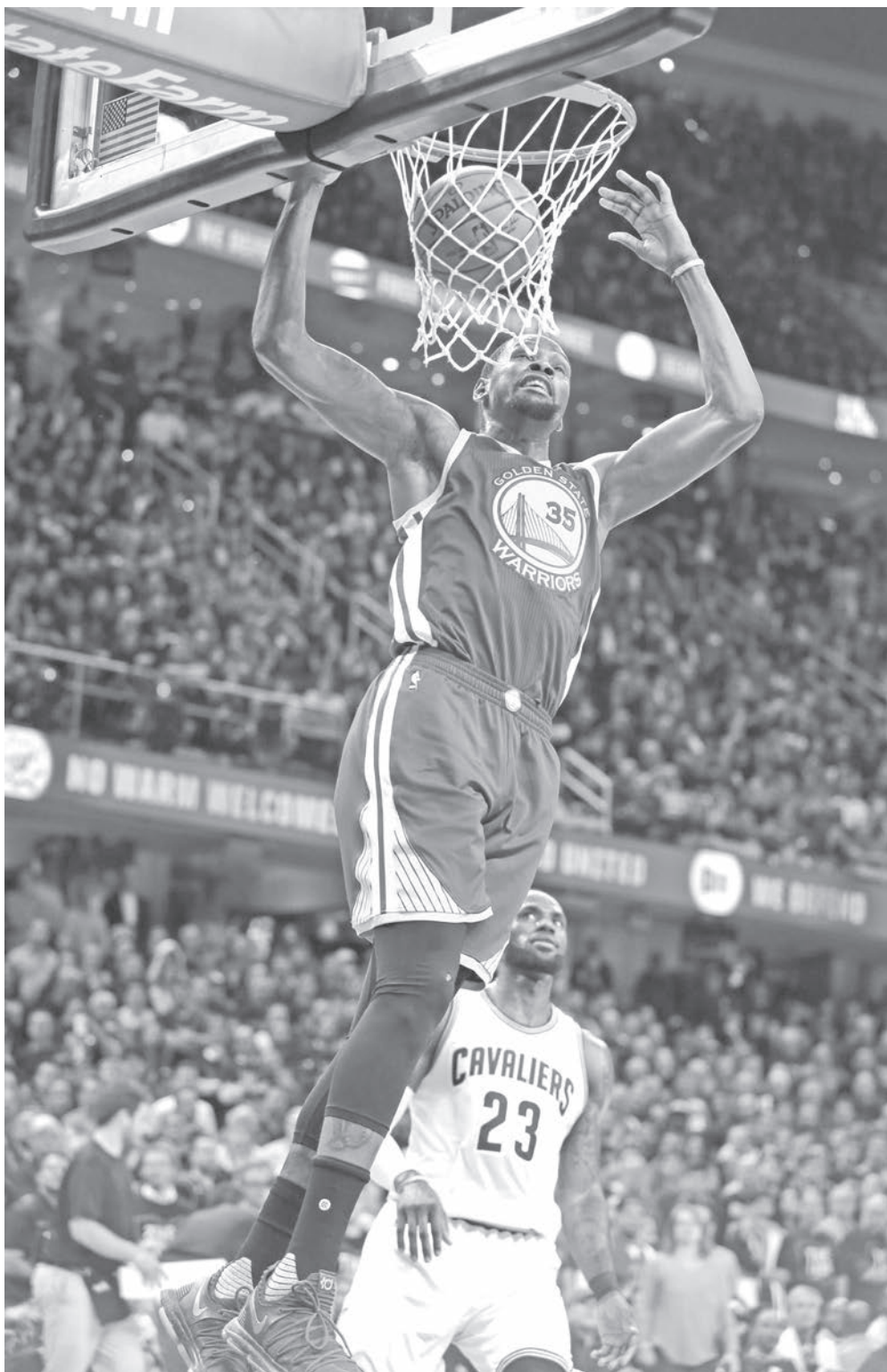
"He took over," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "You can tell, he knows this is his moment. He's been an amazing player in this league for a long time, and he senses this is his time, his moment, his team."

With their 15th straight win, the Warriors now have the longest postseason streak for any team in the four major professional sports.

But that means little to Golden State's players, who with a win in Game 4 on Friday night can exorcise those haunting demons from last June when the Warriors blew a 3-1 lead in the Finals to the Cavaliers.

No team has ever overcome a 3-0 deficit, and it doesn't appear any team is equipped to hang with these Warriors, who may go down as one of the best ever.

"It's not over," Durant warned. "The job's not done."



AP
Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant (35) dunks over Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) during the first half of Game 3 of basketball's NBA Finals in Cleveland, Wednesday, June 7, 2017.



said. "I saw he (James) was playing his heels behind the 3-point line. I've been working on that shot my whole life. To see that go in, that was liberating, man. We've got one more to go."

After Golden State went up, Irving missed a 3 from his favorite spot on the right side and the Warriors closed it out with four free throws in the final 12.9 seconds before celebrating briefly on the floor and then charging down the hallway to their locker room.

After winning Games 1 and 2 by a combined 41 points at home, the Warriors had to scrap for all 48 minutes to take down the Cavs, who will need a similar effort to avoid being swept by a team with few—if any—weaknesses.

"It's the most firepower I've played in my career," James said. "I've played against some great teams, but I don't think no team has had this type of firepower."

James and Irving were relentless in the second half and it appeared they had done enough to get Cleveland over the top and perhaps back in the series.

Durant, though, was not going to be denied. Not after getting this close, not after enduring so much heat for turning his back on the Thunder, not with a chance to put the Cavaliers in an insurmountable hole.

The 7-footer finished 10 of 18 from the field with eight rebounds and four assists. Curry, who has benefited more than any other player by Durant's arrival and is healthy in these

Finals, added 13 rebounds and six assists.

With Kerr back on the bench for the second straight game after battling back pain, Golden State, which made a record 9 3-pointers in the first quarter and finished 16 of 33 behind the arc, also got just what it needed from its reserves as Andre Iguodala had several big plays, none bigger than stripping James of the ball on a potential tying 3-pointer with 12.6 seconds left.

Cleveland had collapsed in the third quarter of the first two games, letting the Warriors run away and hide.

Irving didn't let that happen.

Showing off his ability to spin in shots high off the backboard, Irving scored 16 in the third and the Cavs held the Warriors to 22 points in their lowest scoring output in any quarter in this postseason.

The Cavaliers, though, couldn't get far enough ahead in the fourth to get comfortable and the Warriors kept chipping into their lead before Durant's defining 3-pointer.

James was knocked flat in the first quarter, when he accidentally got blasted in the chin by teammate Tristan Thompson's shoulder. A hush fell over Cleveland's crowd as the three-time champ laid in the foul lane like a boxer sprawled on the canvas. James shook it off, got up and moments later drove for a layup.

Golden State landed the next blows, but the Cavs kept coming back and were moments away from climbing back and maybe mounting another comeback.

With the flick of his wrist, Durant shot them down.

I don't want to relax. This is a crazy game, anything can happen."

Klay Thompson added 30 points and Stephen Curry had 26 for this California Dream Team now one win from its second title in three years.

James shook off a knee-buckling blow to the chin while scoring 39 and Kyrie Irving added 38 for the Cavs, who took a 113-107 lead with 3:09 left on J.R. Smith's 3-pointer.

Curry hit a layup and after

both James and Irving missed for the Cavs, Durant dropped his 3—a shot that could be the one most remembered in this magnificent run by the Warriors.

"All I was looking at was the bottom of the net," Durant

Lonzo Ball works out for Lakers, would love to be No. 2 pick

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—With the ball in his hands on the Los Angeles Lakers' home court, Lonzo Ball was exactly where he always wanted to be.

Ball's new Lakers workout gear was soaked with sweat after he went through his individual pre-draft workout Wednesday for Magic Johnson and coach Luke Walton at their training complex. The tantalizing UCLA product left no doubt that he hopes his favorite team chooses him with the second overall pick.

"Of course," Ball said. "I want to stay home."

The Lakers have roughly two weeks to decide whether to hitch their franchise rebuild-

ing effort to the 6-foot-6 point guard—and by extension to his outspoken father, LaVar, who didn't attend the workout.

After enduring the worst four-year stretch in franchise history, the Lakers hope to rebound next fall with their new draft choice alongside fellow No. 2 picks D'Angelo Russell and Brandon Ingram. Lonzo Ball is generally considered the front-runner to become the Lakers' new catalyst, with some analysts even believing he surpasses Markelle Fultz and the rest of the draft pool as the prospect with the greatest potential for superstardom.

Ball doesn't shy from the responsibility that would come with his selection, either: He

plans to be a leader for his NBA team from his first day on the roster.

"They have a lot of good players," Ball said. "Obviously they need a leader, a point guard, and I feel like I can bring that to the team."

But every NBA team with a top draft pick is clearly weighing Ball's talent against the potential perils of choosing a somewhat unorthodox 19-year-old with a heavily involved parent currently trying to sell \$495 basketball shoes online. Lonzo didn't wear Big Baller Brand's ZO2: Prime shoes for his Lakers workout.

Any potential concerns felt by the Lakers haven't filtered through to Ball, who was still

excited about his getting-to-know-you dinner in Venice on Tuesday with the Lakers' top brass, including Magic and general manager Rob Pelinka.

"I got positive vibes," Ball said. "I had a lot of fun. It was great meeting everybody here, and they were very welcoming."

He was particularly thrilled to meet Johnson, the Hall of Famer now directing the Lakers' rebuild as their president of basketball operations. The 6-foot-9 former point guard provided the template for Ball's approach to hoops through LaVar, an ardent Magic fan.

"Magic Johnson is one of the greatest players ever to play," Ball said. "And I love the way Coach (Walton) wants to coach

us, and then Rob is a great dude, too. So just meeting all them, it was a great blessing."

Ball didn't say whether he will work out for other teams, claiming he'll leave it up to his agent. But his visit with the Lakers was his first individual workout, and LaVar has openly voiced his desire for his son to end up with the hometown team for many months.

After growing up 50 miles away in Chino Hills, Ball spent the last year 20 minutes north of the Lakers' El Segundo training complex in Westwood, where he led the Bruins' transformation from a regular underachiever into a 31-win team.

Ball is an aggressive, creative playmaker who also had

one of the most accurate shots in NCAA history last season, albeit with an unorthodox shooting motion that will never be found in a textbook. Ball said he did "a lot of shooting" in his workout with the Lakers, who undoubtedly wanted a look at that release.

Ball's detractors question his defensive acumen and his ability to adapt his unusual shot to the pro game, but few doubt his status as an elite facilitator who could thrive in Walton's up-tempo, Golden State-inspired offense.

Yet the Lakers already have the 6-foot-5 Russell, who has shown flashes of brilliance as the point guard on two bad teams. Walton and the Lakers clearly believe Ball and Russell could share the same backcourt profitably.

Sabathia wins 5th straight start as Yankees beat Red Sox



NEW YORK (AP) — C C Sabathia beat Rick Porcello in a matchup of Cy Young Award winners, and Chris Carter drove in four runs to lead the New York Yankees over the Boston Red Sox 8-0 Wednesday night.

Sabathia (7-2) has won five straight starts for the first time since April 2012. He allowed five hits in eight innings in his longest outing since April 2015.

Jonathan Holder finished with a perfect ninth. Boston's final 15 hitters went down in order.

Porcello (3-8) lost his third straight start, giving up six runs — five earned — and eight hits in 6 1/3 innings.

New York stopped Boston's three-game winning streak and reopened a two-game lead over the second-place Red Sox in the AL East.

Dodgers 2, Nationals 1

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw outdueled Stephen Strasburg with seven sharp innings, leading the Dodgers to the victory.

Kershaw (8-2) allowed three hits and struck out nine in his first win since May 17. Pedro Baez got two outs before Kenley Jansen finished for his 10th save.

Strasburg (7-2) struck out eight in six innings in his first loss since April 29. The ace right-hander was 5-0 with a 2.75 ERA in his previous six starts.

In a rematch of last year's NL Division Series, won by Los Angeles in five games, the NL-leading Nationals took two of three from the Dodgers.

Ryan Zimmerman hit his 17th homer for Washington in the second.

Corey Seager went deep for Los Angeles, and Yasmani Grandal hit a tiebreaking RBI double in the Dodgers' two-run sixth.

Reds 6, Athletics 4

In Cincinnati, St. Louis kept Scooter Gennett in check a day after his four-homer game, but Patrick Kivlehan had a pinch three-run shot that sparked Cincinnati.

The Cardinals have dropped six in a row. They let a 4-1 lead slip away when Kivlehan — another utility player like Gennett — and Joey Votto homered during a five-run seventh inning.

Gennett went 1 for 4 with a single a night after he became the first Reds player to homer four times in a game.

Kivlehan's first career pinch-hit homer off Brett Cecil (0-2) tied it at 4. Votto's two-run homer off Trevor Rosenthal finished the eight-batter rally.

Wandy Peralta (3-1) got the win in relief of Bronson Arroyo. Raisel Iglesias pitched the ninth, staying perfect in 11 save chances.

Royals 7, Astros 5

In Kansas City, Missouri, Jason Vargas tossed five solid innings for his eighth victory and Cheslor Cuthbert drove in three runs, helping the Royals to the win.

The anticipated pitching duel between Vargas (8-3) and Dallas Keuchel, who have the two best ERAs in the majors, never materialized. Keuchel was scratched with an illness.

Instead, the Astros started right-hander Dayan Diaz (0-1), who gave up three runs and four hits, including Lorenzo Cain's solo homer, in 2 2/3 innings.

Kelvin Herrera worked the ninth for his 13th save in 15 opportunities.

Marlins 6, Cubs 5

In Chicago, Marcell Ozuna hit his 15th homer, J.T. Realmuto also went deep and the Marlins avoided a three-game series sweep.

Solo homers by Realmuto in a three-run fourth and

Ozuna in the fifth against John Lackey (4-6) helped stake Miami to a 5-2 lead.

Dee Gordon added two hits and scored two runs, and the Marlins won for the eighth time in 11 games. They stopped the Cubs' season-high win streak at five.

Kyle Schwarber homered and had two doubles for Chicago. Ian Happ also went deep.

Orioles 9, Pirates 6, 11 innings

In Baltimore, Trey Mancini tied the game with a two-run homer in the ninth inning, and then hit a three-run drive for Baltimore in the 11th.

The Orioles trailed 6-1 in the eighth before rallying for a second straight night. Adam Jones hit a solo shot in the eighth, Mancini's pinch-hit home run capped a four-run ninth and the rookie belted the winning shot against Wade LeBlanc (3-2) in the 11th.

Mychal Givens (6-0) worked the 11th for Baltimore.

Jose Osuna homered for the Pirates, connecting with a man on in the seventh against Edwin Jackson, who was making his Orioles debut after being summoned from Triple-A Norfolk. Baltimore is the 12th big league team that Jackson has pitched for during his 15-year career.

Mets 4, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Texas, Jay Bruce homered twice and the Mets scored the tiebreaking run in the ninth inning on a throwing error by second baseman Rougned Odor.

With two on and two outs, Jose Reyes hit a chopper up the middle. Odor fielded the ball but bounced his throw to second while fading away from the bag. Rangers short-stop Elvis Andrus was unable to hold on for an inning-ending forceout as pinch-runner Matt Reynolds scored from

second base.

The Rangers, who are 4-12 since their 10-game winning streak last month, tied it at 3 when Robinson Chirinos hit a two-run homer with two outs in the eighth off Jerry Blevins (3-0).

Blue Jays 7, Athletics 5, 10 innings

In Oakland, California, Josh Donaldson hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the 10th inning against his former club, helping the Blue Jays avoid a sweep.

Frankie Montas (1-1) plunked Kevin Pillar before Donaldson hit a drive over the wall in left-center. Justin Smoak added a two-out drive to center for his second homer of the game.

Ryan Tepera (4-1) pitched a 1-2-3 ninth for the win, and Roberto Osuna finished for his 14th save.

Rockies 8, Indians 1

In Denver, Kyle Freeland pitched 6 1/3 effective innings, Nolan Arenado drove in three runs and the Rockies earned their fourth straight win.

Charlie Blackmon added two RBIs for the Rockies, who lead the NL with 38 wins. Ian Desmond had three hits and scored two runs.

Freeland (7-3) allowed one run and six hits, struck out five and walked none while lowering his ERA to 3.34.

Tigers 4, Angels 0

In Detroit, Buck Farmer outlasted Alex Meyer in an unexpected pitchers' duel, and Justin Upton hit a three-run homer for Detroit in the eighth inning.

Farmer (2-0) allowed three hits in 6 2/3 innings. Detroit pushed across an unearned run in the third, and Upton gave the Tigers some insurance with a drive to left off Yusmeiro Petit.

Detroit has won five of six.

Meyer (2-3) permitted three hits in six innings. He walked four and struck out nine.

Brewers 6, Giants 3

In Milwaukee, Jimmy Nelson pitched six solid innings for Milwaukee, and Jesus Aguilar drove in the go-ahead run with a two-out double in the fifth.

Nelson (4-3) struck out six and allowed seven hits along with his first walk since May 23. But he was sharp enough — outside of a three-run third inning — to earn his second win in three starts.

Corey Knebel pitched a perfect ninth for his seventh save.

Buster Posey homered for the Giants. Ty Blach (4-3) gave up five runs and nine hits in six innings.

Braves 14, Phillies 1

In Atlanta, Mike Foltynewicz pitched seven scoreless innings, Nick Markakis drove in five runs and the Braves stopped the Phillies' four-game winning streak.

Markakis had two-run doubles in the seventh and eighth as the Braves scored a combined 10 runs in the two innings. Dansby Swanson hit a three-run homer.

The Braves, who lost the first two games of the four-game series, beat the Phillies for the first time in six tries this season.

Jerad Eickhoff (0-7) remained winless through 12 starts. It's the longest stretch of starts without a win for a Phillies pitcher since Cliff Lee's 13-game streak in 2012.

Rays 3, White Sox 1

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Jacob Faria got the win in his major league debut, and Tampa Bay snapped a season-high four-game slide.

Faria (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in 6 1/3 innings. Tommy Hunter, Jose Alvarado and Alex Colome finished the

four-hitter, with Colome getting three outs for his 16th save.

Tampa Bay's Tim Beckham had two hits and drove in a run.

White Sox right-hander Mike Pelfrey (2-5) yielded three runs, two earned, and six hits in 5 1/3 innings.

Mariners 6, Twins 5

In Seattle, Mike Zunino hit his second homer of the game with two outs in the ninth inning, a two-run shot that gave surging Seattle a comeback victory over Minnesota.

Kyle Seager and Carlos Ruiz also homered for the Mariners, who overcame a three-run deficit and won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Ben Gamel singled with two outs in the ninth off closer Brandon Kintzler (2-1). Zunino, who hit a solo shot in the third, sent a 2-1 pitch over the center-field wall for his fourth home run.

Edwin Diaz (2-2) pitched a scoreless inning for the win.

Diamondbacks 7, Padres 4

In Phoenix, Jake Lamb and Brandon Drury homered in a five-run third, and Arizona scored five times in an inning for the second consecutive night to beat San Diego.

Zack Greinke (8-3) labored through five innings for the win, striking out eight. Arizona came back from a two-run deficit to win its eighth straight home game, improving to 23-8 at Chase Field.

The winning streak is the best for the Diamondbacks since they won eight home games in a row in July 2012.

Yangervis Solarte homered for the Padres, who lost their fourth straight overall. Luis Perdomo (0-3) lasted four innings.

Lamb hit a three-run shot and leads the majors with 53 RBIs. Fernando Rodney pitched the ninth for his 15th save.

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'16 champ Djokovic in 'whole new situation' after Paris loss

PARIS (AP)—His French Open title defense nearing an end, Novak Djokovic stumbled and tumbled to his knees on the red clay, his racket flying from his right hand as his opponent's backhand zipped past.

Even Djokovic found it hard to fathom how far he's fallen, only a year removed from leaving Roland Garros as a player nonpareil, the first man in nearly a half-century to win four consecutive Grand Slam titles.

That he departed this time with a surprisingly lopsided 7-6 (5), 6-3, 6-0 quarterfinal loss to sixth-seeded Dominic Thiem of Austria on Wednesday left everyone, including Djokovic, pondering the answers to difficult questions.

Did he give up in the last set? What has happened to his once-impervious play? Can he summon that again? Does he



Serbia's Novak Djokovic falls as he plays Austria's Dominic Thiem during their quarterfinal match the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Wednesday, June 7, 2017 in Paris.

need a break from the grind of the tour?

"It's a fact that I'm not playing close to my best, and I know that," Djokovic said after his first straight-set loss at a major since the 2013 Wimbledon final. "For me, it's a whole new situation

that I'm facing."

Since completing his career Grand Slam at the French Open 12 months ago, Djokovic has participated in four majors in a row without earning a trophy. He also lost his No. 1 ranking to Andy Murray.

Djokovic was runner-up at

the U.S. Open but lost in the third round at Wimbledon, the first round at the Rio Olympics and the second round at the Australian Open.

"The win here last year has brought a lot of different emotions. Obviously, it was a thrill and complete fulfillment, I guess," Djokovic said during an expansive and frank news conference. "I have lived on that wave of excitement, I guess, 'til the U.S. Open or so. And at the U.S. Open, I just was emotionally very flat and found myself in a situation that I hadn't faced before in (my) professional tennis career."

The 23-year-old Thiem next faces nine-time French Open champion Rafael Nadal, who advanced when No. 20 Pablo Carreno Busta stopped while trailing 6-2, 2-0 after injuring an abdominal muscle late in the first set.

"I mean, it's a joke how tough it is to win a Slam," said Thiem, the only player who beat Nadal in one of his 23 clay-court matches this season. "Now I beat Novak. On Friday, (it's) Nadal. In the finals, there is another top star."

In the other semifinal,

2016 runner-up Murray will face 2015 champion Stan Wawrinka in a matchup of three-time major title winners. Murray eliminated No. 8 Kei Nishikori 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (0), 6-1 on Wednesday, while No. 3 Wawrinka won 6-3, 6-3, 6-1 against No. 7 Marin Cilic.



CAROL

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made her the only CNMI player in contention in the singles play, as both Carol Heras and Robbie Schorr were eliminated in the second round. Heras bowed to France's Helena Mohamed yesterday, 0-6, 0-6, while Schorr fell to No. 13 seed Matteo Savio of Australia in a three-set game last Tuesday. Savio took the opening set, 6-3, but missed the sweep when Schorr pulled off a 7-5 triumph in the second. Then in the deciding third set, Savio regained his bearings to foil the CNMI bet's upset bid, 6-4.

Meanwhile, in the doubles event, Heras is still in the race as she and teammate Sophie Michl of New Zealand survived the Japanese duo of Toyama and Rima Yoshida in the opening round yesterday. Heras and Michl, who are seeded third in the field, dropped the closely fought first set, 6-7 (5), but fought back with a tough victory in the second, 7-5, to extend the match. In the super-tiebreaker third set, the CNMI-New Zea-

land pairing managed to dominate their Japanese foes, cruising to a 10-3 triumph.

With the win, Heras and Michl may cross path with the No. 1 seed Lee and Holly Stewart of New Zealand in the semifinals of the upper half of the draw. Heras and Michl are scheduled to challenge today New Caledonia's Moto-Nekirai and Lea Bolo, who also came from a hard-earned 6-2, 6-7 (3), 10-4 victory over Singapore's Julia Barden and Vanuatu's Rosalie Molbaleh to move into the quarterfinals.

The other quarterfinal pairing at the top half of the draw will have Lee and Stewart squaring off against Australia's Milan Krish and Julia Varvarios, who eliminated the Kiwi duo of Aimee Brown and Alysha Nowacki, 6-3, 7-5.

At the bottom half of the draw, the quarterfinalists were Di Tommaso and Grace Schumacher, New Zealand's Amelia Lawson and Sarah Weekley and Lara McNaughten and Ema Miyaura, and No. 2 seeds Otaha Aoki of Japan and Singapore's Ashley Yim.

Rota, Tinian to challenge Saipan in district meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2017 CNMI District Tournament will kick off today with Rota, Tinian, and Saipan battling for the Asia Pacific Regional Championships slot in the Majors division.

The opening ceremony will be held at 10am at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield with Saipan and Rota teams in the Junior and Senior League divisions also vying for the ASPAC seats.

In the Majors division, three preliminary games are set from 11am to 3pm at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield with the Top 2 teams after the round-robin contest advancing to the finals, which is set for Saturday at 10am. The winner of the championship game will earn the right to represent the CNMI in the ASPAC, which will be held in South Korea late this month.



In the Junior League division, Rota and Saipan will play in a best-of-three format. Game 1 is set for 11am today at "Tan Ko" field, while Game 2 is scheduled at 10am tomorrow. Game 3, if needed, will take place this Sunday, beginning at 10am.

The same best-of-three format will be in effect in the Senior League division with Game 1 slated at 1pm today and Game 2 at 1pm tomorrow. Game 3, if necessary,

will be played also at 1pm this Sunday.

Saipan will host both the ASPAC in the Junior and Senior League divisions from June 22 to July 3. In the Junior League, the CNMI will be pitted against Chinese-Taipei, the Philippines Hong Kong, and Guam, while the Senior League will have the host, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Guam.

Winners of the Saipan-hosted ASPAC will advance to the World Series.

IT&E

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to the easy win despite having only five players available for the first semis game. Kye Tam and Gillian Villagomez were the two other players who suited up for IT&E and they contributed 6 markers apiece to the team's cause.

The Lady Knights also had a depleted lineup and could not keep up with IT&E gunners to bow out of competition. The Lady Knights will face the loser of the Ol'Aces-Junior Ol'Aces tiff today for the third place trophy.

Meanwhile, in the continuation of the regular season of the boys U18 division, the Sonics XVI/PHI routed Kagman Rollers, 63-37.

The Sonics broke away in the second half after leading by only 8 at the break, 31-23.

Keanu Diaz dropped 10 of his 17 points in the second half to help the Sonics get their fifth win in seven games. Kagman absorbed its fourth loss against two victories. The Sonics are in third place in the team standings behind the NMI Rollers (5-0) and Ol'Aces Elite (5-1), while Kagman is at the

bottom half of the 12-squad field. Sonics XVIII (3-3), Natibu Warriors (3-3), MCS Knights (3-3), Kagman Sparks (1-5), Ol'Aces Extreme (1-6), Agape Torchbearers (0-4), and Northside Wolves (0-5) complete the standings.

The NMI Rollers kept its perfect record after crushing Kagman Sparks last Tuesday, 72-48.

Warren Ellama, Angelo Factor, and Kenji Abobo teamed up in the NMI Rollers' easy victory after combining for more than half of the squad's total output. Ellama

had 12 points, while Factor and Abobo added 11 and 10, respectively. Mustafa Agustino made 16 points on a losing effort for Kagman Sparks.

In other results in the boys U18 this week, the MCS Knights outclassed the Sonics XVIII, 49-39.

Matthew Richardson recorded 12 points in the Knights' double-digit victory, while Myles Santos and Tony Deleon Guerrero combined for 17.

First Game

IT&E 50 – Manibusan 13, Travilla 13, Reyes 12, Villago-

mez 6, Tam 6.

Lady Knights 21 – Chinen 6, Buenaventura 4, Bucalig 4, Alcantara 3, Toves 2, Rabang 2.

Scoring by halves: 24-7, 50-21.

Second Game

Sonics XVI/PHI 63 – Diaz 17, Rafols 11, Linaogo 6, Ordonia 4, Apasan 4, Sabangan 3, De Guzman 2, Itaas 2, Ibanez 2, Dico 2.

Kagman Rollers 37 – Fitial 9, Duenas 8, Agulto 7, Rabauliman 4, Arceo 4, Fabia 3, Naputi 2.

Scoring by halves: 31-23, 63-37.

OLEAI

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A certification is needed for the CNMI to host international and regional track meets, such as the Micronesian Area Championships and Pacific Mini Games. Northern Marianas Athletics will put up a bid to host MAC next year when NMA president Ramon Tebuteb attends the Oceania Athletics Association Congress later this month, while the Mini Games will come to the CNMI in 2021.

Tonga withdrawal is final

Meanwhile, Tonga stood by its earlier decision to withdraw from hosting the 2019 Pacific Games.

Tonga Prime Minister 'Akilisi Pohiva and two of his ministers met with Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan and CEO Andrew Minogue early this week and the former announced that their decision not to host the quadrennial meet is final.

In a press release from the council, it stated that Tonga wished to focus its resources

on other more important areas of economic development and sports is not an urgent priority for its government.

"The PGC expressed its disappointment in not being consulted before the decision was taken and in the government's unwillingness to negotiate a solution for whatever financial concerns it had. The prime minister was reminded that the government is a party to a legally binding contract and that in unilaterally withdrawing from hosting the Games, the PGC would seek legal advice

with a view to formally terminate the host agreement and seek damages for breach of contract," stated NMSA president Michael White in a press release sent to the *Saipan Tribune*.

"The PGC Executive Board has previously advised its members that it has put contingency plans in place for the process of selecting an alternative host nation quickly in the event that matters with the Tongan Government are not fully resolved by June 30. The Executive Board will now

consider expediting this process further," it added.

White shared the council's sentiments and is positive that the Pacific Games will still push through.

"NMSA is disappointed that Tonga came to the conclusion that it was unable to honor its contract with the Pacific Games Council, and its promises to the countries and territories of the Pacific. We are hopeful that the Pacific Games Council will find a suitable replacement and that the Games will go on as scheduled in 2019," White said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|----|
| New York | 33 | 23 | .589 | — |
| Boston | 32 | 26 | .552 | 2 |
| Baltimore | 31 | 26 | .544 | 2½ |
| Tampa Bay | 30 | 31 | .492 | 5½ |
| Toronto | 29 | 31 | .483 | 6 |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|----|
| Minnesota | 29 | 26 | .527 | — |
| Cleveland | 29 | 28 | .509 | 1 |
| Detroit | 29 | 29 | .500 | 1½ |
| Kansas City | 26 | 32 | .448 | 4½ |
| Chicago | 25 | 32 | .439 | 5 |

West Division

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Houston | 42 | 18 | .700 | — |
| Seattle | 30 | 30 | .500 | 12 |
| Los Angeles | 30 | 32 | .484 | 13 |
| Texas | 27 | 32 | .458 | 14½ |
| Oakland | 26 | 33 | .441 | 15½ |

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Washington | 37 | 21 | .638 | — |
| New York | 25 | 32 | .439 | 11½ |
| Atlanta | 25 | 32 | .439 | 11½ |
| Miami | 25 | 33 | .431 | 12 |
| Philadelphia | 21 | 36 | .368 | 15½ |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|------------|----|----|------|----|
| Milwaukee | 32 | 28 | .533 | — |
| Chicago | 30 | 28 | .517 | 1 |
| Cincinnati | 28 | 30 | .483 | 3 |
| St. Louis | 26 | 31 | .456 | 4½ |
| Pittsburgh | 26 | 33 | .441 | 5½ |

West Division

| | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Colorado | 38 | 23 | .623 | — |
| Los Angeles | 36 | 25 | .590 | 2 |
| Arizona | 36 | 25 | .590 | 2 |
| San Francisco | 24 | 37 | .393 | 14 |
| San Diego | 23 | 37 | .383 | 14½ |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2nd Annual President’s Cup

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A Matansa player, center, stops the ball while a TanHoldings defender keeps a close eye on her during their U10 division game in the 2nd Annual President’s Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Middle School Field. The Saipan Soccer School-organized 5 vs 5 tournament was held in celebration of Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan.



A Matansa FC player, left, is up against three TanHoldings defenders during their U8 division game.



Shirley's FC's Jerlyn Castillo breaks away from Southern United defenders during their U14/U15G match.



TanHoldings and Kanoa players chase the ball during their U10 match.



A Kanoa FC player, right, tries to dribble past two MP United defenders during their U14/U15G tiff.



A Southern United player, left, deflects the ball during their U12B division game against Kanoa FC.



MP United players huddle before their match against Kanoa.



Players take a breather during the weekend competition.

Durant's shot
sends perfect
Warriors over
Cavs in Finals

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Sabathia wins
5th straight start
as Yankees beat
Red Sox

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Carol Lee, seen here competing in an ITF Juniors event on Saipan last year, is the only CNMI player in contention in the singles event of the New Caledonia ITF Junior 2017.



Carol Lee advances to quarters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee stayed on course in her title bid in the New Caledonia ITF Junior 2017 after winning her first game at the Ligue Caledonienne De Tennis in Noumea yesterday.

Lee, who is the No. 1 seed in the Juniors ITF Circuit event and drew a bye in the

opening round, dominated Japan's Hitomi Toyama, 6-1, 6-1, to advance to the quarter-

finals. In the Round of 8, which will be played today, the 15-year-old will be paired against a familiar foe in No. 6 Chiara Di Tommaso of Australia. Lee faced Di Tommaso twice last year, beating the Land Down Under player in their Round of 16 game in the 2016 Open Junior BNP PARIBAS de Nouvelle-Caledonie, 6-1, 6-1, before



losing in the doubles (with Palau's Ayna Rengiil) in the semifinals of the ITF Waikato-Bays Under 18s Championships in New Zealand. Di Tommaso arranged her third meeting with Lee after ousting the host's Lysiane Moto-Nekiriai yesterday, 6-0, 6-2.

Lee's victory yesterday

See CAROL on Page 34

IT&E takes first finals seat

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

IT&E marched into the finals after waltzing its way past the Lady Knights, 50-21, during their semis game in the girls U18 division of the 2017 Francisco M. Diaz Memorial Youth League last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Tawnie Manibusan, Jan Travilla, and Karleen Reyes scored in twin digits to bring IT&E into the title match and eliminate the Lady Knights. The winner-take-all finale will be played tonight with IT&E

taking on the victor of the other semis match between the Ol'Aces and the Junior Ol'Aces, who dueled last night, but results of their game were unavailable at press time.

Manibusan and Travilla fired a game-high 13 points apiece, while Reyes chipped in 12 to lift IT&E

See IT&E on Page 34



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
IT&E's Tawnie Manibusan, left, unloads a shot in front of the Lady Knights' Quincy Chinen during their semis game in the girls U18 division of the Diaz youth caging last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association is appealing to the public to refrain from using the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility as resurfacing work there has yet to be completed. "Please be patient. The track is not yet open for public use," NMSA executive director Tony Rogolifoi said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The four-lane, 400-meter track was resurfaced last week, but markings and railings have yet to be placed. Walkers and joggers have been seen using the track this

week even though the fences are locked.

Rogolifoi said materials for the marking and the railings have been shipped and contractor Tang's Corp. is waiting for their arrival. Rogolifoi was told that it would take a week or two for the markings to be done and for the railings to be placed. An expert will also be brought to Saipan to facilitate the proper markings, which should be done according to international standards so that the track could get back its Level II certification from the International Association of Athletics Federations.

See OLEAI on Page 34



Oleai track still closed, waiting for markings



The resurfaced Oleai Sports Complex track oval is waiting for markings and remains closed for public use. ROSELYN B. MONROYO